

The AMERICAN LEGION



HOW TO SEND YOUR VERY BEST.

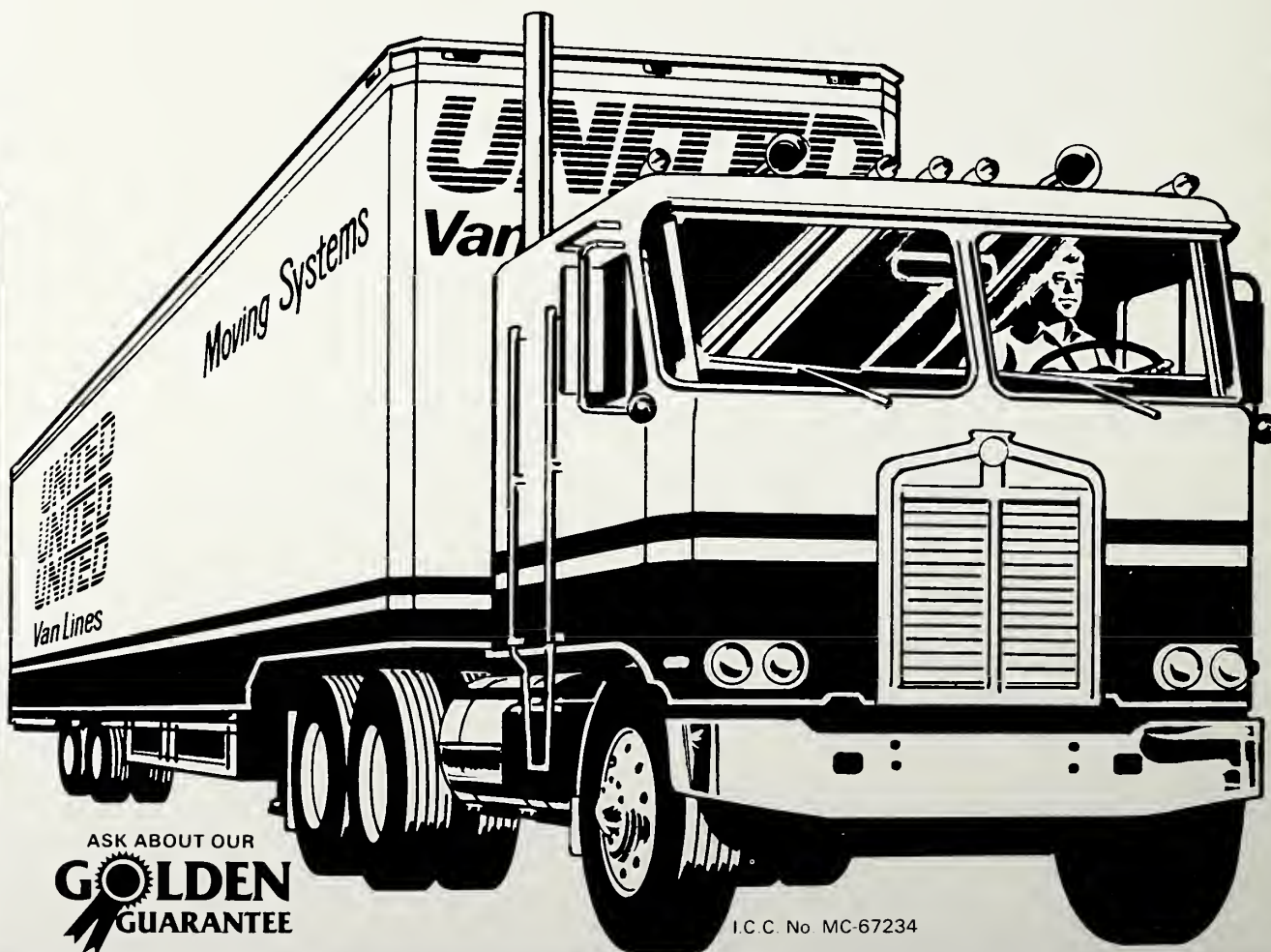
You've lavished a lot of love and affection on your household possessions over the years. So on moving day let us give them the special care and protection they need.

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FOR GOD AND COUNTRY
WE ASSOCIATE OURSELVES TOGETHER
FOR THE FOLLOWING PURPOSES

To uphold and defend the Constitution of the United States of America; to maintain law and order; to foster and perpetuate a one hundred percent Americanism; to preserve the memories and incidents of our associations in the Great Wars; to inculcate a sense of individual obligation to the community, state and nation; to combat the autocracy of both the classes and the masses; to make right the master of might; to promote peace and good will on earth; to safeguard and transmit to posterity the principles of justice, freedom and democracy; to consecrate and sanctify our comradeship by our devotion to mutual helpfulness.



THE AMERICAN LEGION
67th
National Convention



SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION
14th National Convention



AMERICAN LEGION
AUXILIARY
65th
National Convention



LA BOUTIQUE
DES HUIT CHAPEAUX
ET QUARANTE FEMMES
64th
Marche Nationale

67th National Convention
August 23 - August 28, 1985 • New Orleans, Louisiana

The American Legion 1985 Convention Program New Orleans, Louisiana

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About the Cover: A dramatic enlargement of the official badge for the 67th National Convention illustrates some of the features and attractions of historic New Orleans. Depicted in the center of the badge are the St. Louis Cathedral facing

Jackson Square, a typical street scene in the French Quarter, one of the few electric streetcars still operating in the United States, and the jazz instrumentalist whose music is so deeply rooted in New Orleans.

A Year of Progress and Growth

WELCOME TO THE AMERICAN LEGION'S 67th annual National Convention, warm Southern hospitality, and historic and gracious New Orleans.

The events of this past year and the manner in which they were met by The American Legion have set the stage for meaningful work and a continued sense of accomplishment as we put into place a new leadership and the mechanics for sustained progress and growth.

The past 12 months have been exciting ones which once again saw our organization move forward with the proven ability to keep abreast of fast-moving issues and a demonstrated skill in anticipating challenges.

Domestic issues dominated the year, while, at the same time, the matter of maintaining secure borders to our South and effective modernization of our defensive capabilities also captured the nation's attention.

Renewed threats to the integrity of the Veterans Administration were proposed to Congress by the Administration and they were met head-on by The American Legion. We countered misinformation and misunderstanding about the value of VA programs to veterans and the nation with comprehensive and legitimate arguments which detailed facts and figures as to how the VA contributes to America's social and economic structure.

In addition, we have moved another step closer in meeting our obligation to the Vietnam veteran, with the first report of The American Legion-Columbia University Study of Vietnam Era Veterans released just last month. It has provided some significant information which we hope will be used by the scientific community and other agencies in dealing with this nation's latest generation of veterans.

This year we also marked several milestones. In Americanism, we are observing 50 years of Boys State programs and 60 years of American Legion Baseball.

During the year we also saw a tremendous response to our Children and Youth areas of national concern: the tragedy of missing children, teenage suicide, and drug and alcohol abuse. Never before has member and nonmember response to these social ills been so overwhelming.

This year The American Legion's Child Welfare Foundation awarded more than \$258,000 in grants to agencies which promote the well-being of children. This is the largest amount in grants in the history of the Foundation.

Americans and Congress also are responding to The American Legion's position of aid to Nicaraguan freedom fighters and long-term assistance to the young democracy in El Salvador.

Americans once again are turning to The American Legion for leadership and thoughtful, well-considered mandates.

American veterans also are turning to The American Legion as a source of involvement. This year we experienced the largest single increase in membership since 1946. This dramatic demonstration of American veterans, willing to join and be active in The American Legion, is directly attributable to the willingness of all Legionnaires to become involved and respond to their fellow veterans who now

realize just how much The American Legion means to America.

Together, we have made great strides in addressing specific needs of various veterans populations, including the aging veteran and the needs of women veterans. I am grateful that, during my year as your National Commander, I have had the opportunity to usher in another phase of American Legion service to all generations of America's veterans. That is something of which I am tremendously proud.

When I think about the tireless dedication of every man and woman in The American Legion there are no words eloquent enough to express my deep appreciation for the work of Legionnaires everywhere. I am humbled when I realize I have had the honor and privilege of being your National Commander during these exciting times. It is a memory which I will vividly recall.

Now, as we set out sights to the future, we must remember that our accomplishments are being shared by all Americans. It is our high standards of service to God and Country they have come to depend upon.

In our deliberations in the coming days, let's always keep in mind that it is for the people of this great nation that we do our greatest work.



*Clarence M. Bacon
National Commander*

WHERE TO REGISTER AND OBTAIN INFORMATION

Registration and Information Booths will be operated in New Orleans for the convenience of the conventioners. You may register for the Convention at a fee of \$10.00 per adult.

A booth will be located in the **Hyatt Regency Hotel** and will operate from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. on Friday, August 23 and daily thereafter until taken out of service at the direction of the Convention Corporation.

A Registration Booth will operate in the Lobby of the Louisiana Superdome on the days of the General Convention Sessions, August 26, 27 and 28, for those persons who have not previously registered and wish to attend convention sessions. (Official convention badge is required for entry to sessions).

All persons (except those under age 13) are to be reminded that the official convention badge or other approved credentials are required to gain entry to the General Convention Sessions.

*Information about the city of New Orleans and the National Convention will be handled by members of the Gray Line Staff at their desks located in the Hyatt, Marriott, Hilton and Sheraton Hotels. **These Booths Do Not Handle Registrations.***



JOIN THE ALLSTATE MOTOR CLUB FOR YOURSELF, YOUR FAMILY, ... AND THE AMERICAN LEGION



FOR EVERY AMERICAN LEGIONNAIRE WHO BECOMES A NEW MEMBER IN THE ALLSTATE MOTOR CLUB, WE WILL MAKE A CONTRIBUTION OF UP TO \$10.00 TO HELP SUPPORT THE MANY FINE PROGRAMS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION. PLUS YOU GET A 10% DISCOUNT!

The Allstate Motor Club is proud to be associated with one of America's most valued organizations, The American Legion. And, we are pleased to lend a hand in supporting its many worthy efforts. So help us help your American Legion by becoming a member of the Allstate Motor Club... Just fill out the application below and mail it in.

The more new Motor Club memberships we receive, the greater the contribution we will make to the American Legion. We can make it good, or we can make it great — it's all up to you.

AND, YOU'D BE DOING SOMETHING GOOD FOR YOURSELF TOO!

The Allstate Motor Club can provide you more protection — more services — and more value for your money than any other Motor Club you can join.

\$50.00 EMERGENCY ROAD & TOWING SERVICE BENEFIT — Car won't start? Flat tire? Out of gas? In your driveway or across town — who hasn't found themselves in at least one of these situations in the last year?

UP TO \$20,000.00 IN 24 HOUR WORLD-WIDE TRAVEL ACCIDENT INSURANCE — You and your spouse will both be covered 24 hours a day, anywhere in the world.

\$35.00 LOST KEY/LOCKOUT SERVICE — If you've lost your key and can't get into your car.

\$500.00 TRIP INTERRUPTION BENEFIT* — If you're stranded away from home because of a car accident.

\$500.00 ARREST BOND* — If you're charged with a traffic violation and it's a matter of "post bond or leave your license."

\$750.00 LEGAL DEFENSE BENEFIT* — If you have to go to court to defend yourself as a result of a traffic violation.

HOTEL/MOTEL AND CAR RENTAL DISCOUNTS — Membership in the Allstate Motor Club can more than pay for itself even if you don't experience auto travel problem. With discounts at Best Western, Radisson, Travelodge, Viscounts, and Howard Johnson's Motor Lodges — Sears and Budget Car Rental.

... STILL MORE VALUE!

- Your spouse receives full membership benefits at no extra cost.
- American Legionnaires qualify for 10% off their annual Motor Club fee.

THIS IS JUST A SAMPLE OF THE BENEFIT PACKAGE THAT CAN BE YOURS IF YOU JOIN THE ALLSTATE MOTOR CLUB — THERE ARE OVER 14 VALUABLE BENEFITS IN ALL!

Join Now! Just one service call for Emergency Road Service could more than cover the annual membership fee — in fact, it just might save you money! Allstate Motor Club — Service, protection, and special values for you — funds for American Legion programs.

*Certain restrictions apply.

ALLSTATE MOTOR CLUB MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION



YES!

Enroll me in the Allstate Motor Club. I understand my spouse can be enrolled with me at no increase in cost. Membership is effective as soon as this application is mailed, subject to payment of membership dues. Annual dues include a subscription to DISCOVERY* Magazine at \$2 a year.

ANNUAL DUES — Check the applicable figure below:

IN STATES OF	ANNUAL DUES ARE	SPECIAL LEGIONNAIRE DUES*
AL AK AZ AR CO DE	<input type="checkbox"/> \$27.00 <input type="checkbox"/> \$24.30	
DC FL GA HI ID IN		
KY LA MD MS MT	<input type="checkbox"/> \$32.00 <input type="checkbox"/> \$28.80	
NV NM NC OR PA		
SC TN TX UT VA WA	<input type="checkbox"/> \$35.00 <input type="checkbox"/> \$31.50	
WV WY		
CA CT IL IA KS ME	<input type="checkbox"/> \$32.00 <input type="checkbox"/> \$28.80	
MA MI MN MO NE		
NH ND OH OK RI	<input type="checkbox"/> \$35.00 <input type="checkbox"/> \$31.50	
SD VT WI		
NJ NY		

Name _____

Address _____

City _____

State _____ ZIP _____

County _____

Phone (____) _____

Age _____ Married ☐ Yes ☐ No

Spouse's Name _____

☐ CHARGE the annual Membership dues to my SearsCharge Account No.

(List 12 or 13 digit number above your name on the credit card.)

I understand that membership is continuous on a year-to-year basis until canceled by me or by the Club upon written notice. As long as I am a SearsCharge Account holder in good standing, future annual dues will be billed on my SearsCharge Account during the expiration month each year.

☐ MY CHECK or MONEY ORDER is enclosed. Make checks payable to Allstate Motor Club and mail to: 34 Allstate Plaza, Northbrook, IL 60062
Allstate Motor Club operated by: Allstate Motor Club, Inc.

My signature _____

Date _____

Annual dues include a subscription to DISCOVERY Magazine at \$2 a year. Only one discount per membership is applicable.



THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

June 12, 1985



I am honored to extend warm greetings to the delegates and guests attending the 67th American Legion National Convention.

Over the years, the American Legion has had a profound and positive effect on our great nation and its citizens. Its members continue to render service to America in so many ways, but especially in realizing the necessity of preserving peace and freedom at home and abroad.

This nation remains a symbol of hope for so many people throughout the world because of your efforts. Your adherence to the principles and common sense that helped to make America great is a source of strength for all its people. The men and women of the American Legion have the courage and the wisdom to see to it that we protect the legacies of liberty for our children. Your support for these timeless values will ensure that our democracy survives, and that others will be born.

I send my best wishes for a memorable and successful convention and for the continued success of your honorable and patriotic endeavors "for God and Country." God bless you.

Ronald Reagan

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salute another.





State of Louisiana
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
Baton Rouge
70804-9004

POST OFFICE BOX 94004
(504) 342-7015



EDWIN W. EDWARDS
GOVERNOR

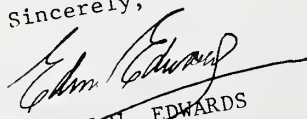
Dear Delegates:

I join the people of Louisiana in welcoming all the members of the American Legion and the Ladies Auxiliary to New Orleans for the 67th Annual American Legion Convention.

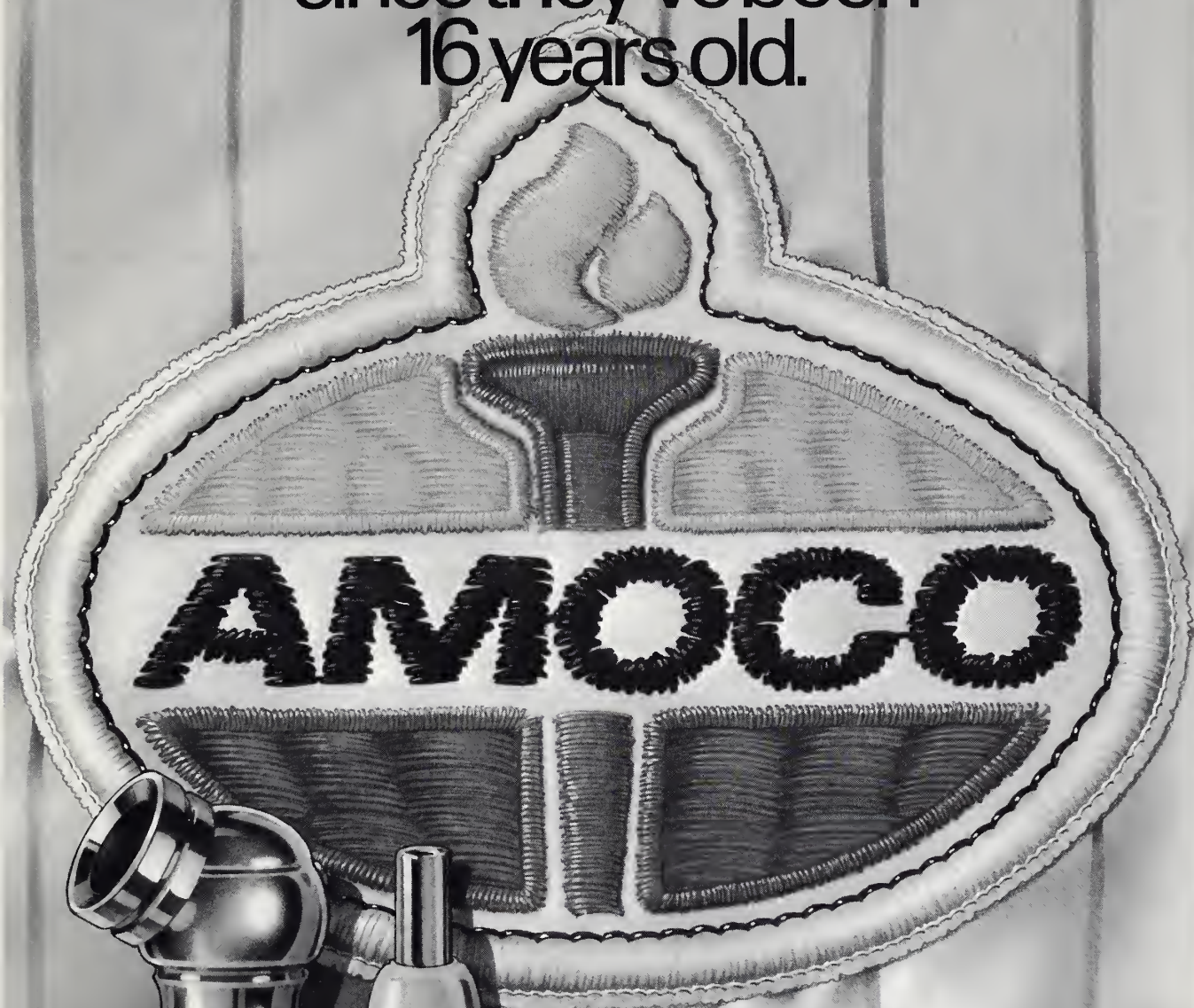
The Louisiana Chapter of the American Legion is an excellent example of what humanitarianism and patriotism can achieve in our individual communities and towns. We are proud to host such an outstanding organization in New Orleans.

I hope that all enjoy their stay in New Orleans and best wishes for a successful convention.

Sincerely,


EDWIN W. EDWARDS

This is the way
people have looked at quality
since they've been
16 years old.



From the time most people start driving,
they begin learning about gasoline quality.
They learn how important that quality is
to their car's performance. Their car's life.
And their own peace of mind.
They also learn that they can depend on
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Amoco. When you're looking for quality.

Your Car Knows

THE AMERICAN LEGION LOUISIANA DEPARTMENT



HOME OF
ROY KIRKHAM
DEPARTMENT COMMANDER
1000 HORTON
MINDEN, LOUISIANA 71055

Legionnaires & Auxiliaries:

On behalf of the more than 46,000 Louisiana Legionnaires it is a pleasure for me to welcome you to our state, and in particular to the 67th National Convention here in New Orleans.

If this is your first visit you will find us helpful hosts and friendly people dedicated to making this a most pleasant experience. New Orleans is a way of life not just a beautiful historical and fun loving city. Our polyglot blend of Spanish, French, Cajun and American provides something for everyone. From a rich antebellum history, to the birthplace of jazz to a world famous cuisine of endless variety in a year-round pleasant climate, it is all here for you. For those returning visitors, welcome back.

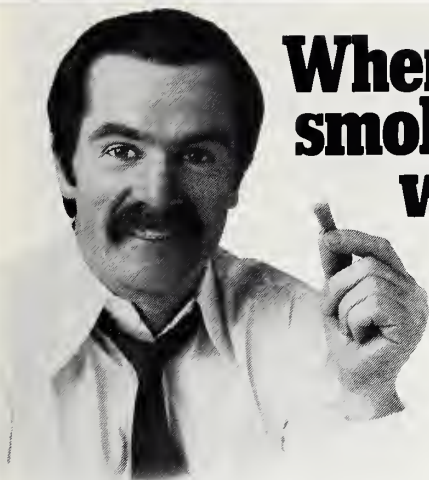
As we greet our American Legion comrades from around the world, we know that we face hard work and serious business in our convention. But remember also our motto, "Laissez les bon temps rouler" (let the good times roll) is very real in Louisiana.

I would also like to thank the First District Convention Corporation for hosting this national convention, I know they have spent many, many hours planning and preparing for our arrival.

Again, Welcome, and if I or any Louisiana Legionnaire can help you, our guest, to enjoy the wonderful things we have to offer or assist you in any way to make your stay here in Louisiana more pleasant, please feel free to call upon us. We want you to have a good time and return to Louisiana, the greatest state in the world.

Sincerely,

Roy Kirkham
ROY KIRKHAM
Department Commander
1984-1985



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smoke, but you
want to enjoy
tobacco,
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Bandits.™**

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or wintergreen.



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of tobacco
pleasure.™**



**For your FREE sample of Skoal Bandits mint fill
out and send to: "Skoal Bandits," P.O. Box 2900, Greenwich,
AL-501**

Name: _____ I certify that I am _____ years of age.*

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Telephone No.: _____

*Offer Not Available to Minors. Limited to one sampling per family. Offer good only in USA and Canada. Allow 4-6 weeks for delivery. Void where prohibited by law.



ERNEST N. MORIAL
MAYOR

CITY OF NEW ORLEANS

OFFICE OF THE MAYOR



G R E E T I N G S

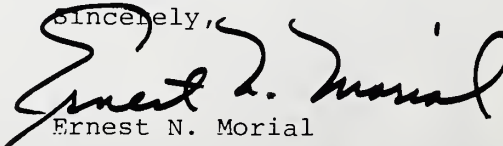
As Mayor of the City of New Orleans, it gives me great pleasure to welcome The American Legion to New Orleans for its 67th National Convention.

I consider it a tribute to our city, its people and their warm hospitality that you are returning to New Orleans in such a short period of time. I am sure that as you move about our city you will notice the many changes that have taken place since your last visit in 1978.

New Orleans is a unique city. A city of contrasts, a blending of old world charm and a warm up-to-date approach to urban life.

The American Legion has always upheld the principles upon which our nation was founded. I'm sure that as you deliberate the vital issues that confront our country today, that you will resolve those issues and continue to work for a better way of life for all Americans.

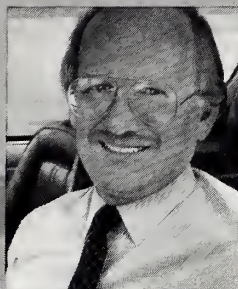
Again, welcome to New Orleans and enjoy your stay.

Sincerely,

Ernest N. Morial

ENM:JR:cd

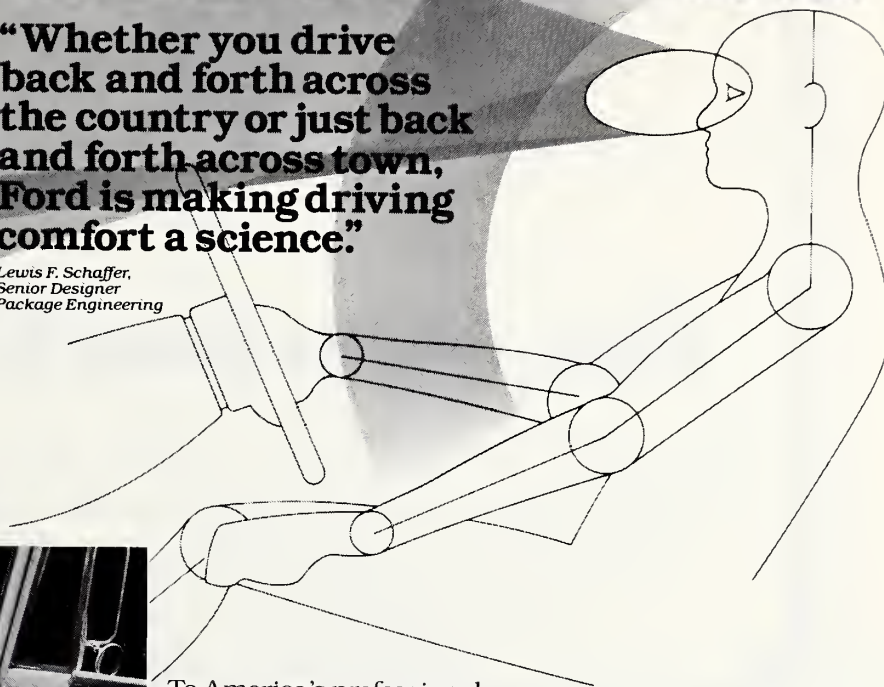
AN AFFIRMATIVE ACTION/EQUAL OPPORTUNITY CITY

ERGONOMICS



"Whether you drive back and forth across the country or just back and forth across town, Ford is making driving comfort a science."

*Lewis F. Schaffer,
Senior Designer
Package Engineering*



In this CL 9000, Ford clusters 45 gauges and controls within easy to read, easy to reach range. All gauges, switches and bulbs are plug-in type for easy service.

To America's professional drivers, the cab of a heavy truck is their office and—for days at a time—their home. That's why Ford Motor Company ergonomic engineers design these cabs from the driver out.

The seats in the Mercury Cougar XR-7 are designed to be comfortable for more than just your bottom. Moveable seat bolsters and adjustable thigh supports help keep the driver in a stable position, even while the car is cornering. Another example of Ford Quality you can feel.



Articulated seats on the Cougar XR-7 include an air chamber in the lumbar area that may be inflated or deflated according to driver preference by a power actuated pump.

Get it together—Buckle up!



Ford • Lincoln • Mercury • Merkur
Ford Trucks • Ford Tractors

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is Job 1.**



The American Legion

Wishes to express its thanks and appreciation
to the following companies and organizations
which have contributed so substantially
to the success of the 67th Annual
National Convention.

New Orleans Area Chapter
The American Red Cross
New Orleans Police Department
New Orleans Fire Department
Medley Distilling Company

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Q. Do you know one of the largest sources of income for your Department, other than dues?

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they are perfect for giveaway and trade shows)
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HAVE AN IMPACT . . .

Be a part of

"DIRECTIONS '86"

The American Legion needs your help in identifying important issues of concern to you, your fellow Legionnaires, and the country.

By responding to "Directions '86" — a convention survey of Legionnaires' interests—you will help formulate and develop programs to meet a variety of veterans' concerns.

"Directions '86" survey forms will be distributed during the opening session of the convention, and at selected "Directions '86" locations around the convention city. Look for special posters and survey deposit boxes.

Let your comrades know what you think. Have an impact!



American Legion Post #22

Rapid City, South Dakota

"Gate City of the Black Hills"

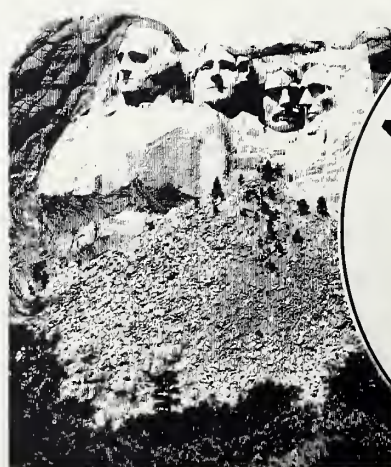
**Welcomes
you to
1986
American
Legion Baseball
World Series**

Floyd Fitzgerald Stadium
Aug. 27-Sept. 1, 1986

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"Come Enjoy Western Hospitality"



Official Program

Sixty-seventh Annual National Convention Of The American Legion



The lineup of distinguished guest speakers is one of the highlights of any National Convention. Here, Veterans Administration chief Harry N. Walters brings convention delegates up to date on veterans affairs at The American Legion's 66th annual National Convention, September 3-5, 1984 in Salt Lake City.

Agenda

67th Annual National Convention—The American Legion Superdome, New Orleans, Louisiana August 26-28, 1985

Monday, August 26, 1985

8:30 a.m.

Prelude

9:00 a.m.

Call to Order

Clarence M. Bacon (Maryland)
National Commander

Opening Program—"A Matter Of Choice"

A Multi Image Tribute to America's Volunteers

Advancement of Colors

Highlanders Senior Color Guard
American Legion Post No. 201
Louisville, Kentucky

Star Spangled Banner

Scott Detweiler, Soloist
New Orleans, Louisiana

Accompanied by: Peter Ole—Organist

Pledge of Allegiance

Invocation and Lighting of Peace Candle

Rev. Charles G. Rice, Jr. (New York)
National Chaplain

Preamble to The American Legion
Constitution

Clarence M. Bacon (Maryland)
National Commander

Call for Convention

Robert W. Spanogle (Michigan)
National Adjutant

9:25 a.m.

Welcome

The Honorable Ernest N. Morial
Mayor of New Orleans

Roy Kirkham, 1984-85 *Department Commander*
The American Legion of Louisiana

Merrick W. Swords, *President*
The American Legion First District Convention
Corporation of Louisiana

Responses to Addresses of Welcome

Clarence M. Bacon (Maryland)
National Commander

9:45 a.m.

National Commander's Report
Clarence M. Bacon (Maryland)
National Commander

10:15 a.m.

Presentation of Medallion to the City of Salt Lake
City, Utah—Host City for the 1984 National
Convention

By: Keith Kreul (Wisconsin)
Past National Commander

To: William E. Christoffersen, *President*
The American Legion 1984 National
Convention Corporation of Utah

10:20 a.m.

Certificate of Appreciation

By: Clarence M. Bacon (Maryland)
National Commander

To: Rev. Charles G. Rice, Jr. (New York)
National Chaplain

10:25 a.m.

Report of Credentials & Internal Affairs—
Section 1

10:30 a.m.

Report of Legislation & Rules

10:40 a.m.

Introduction

Mrs. Helen Gardner (Florida)
National President
American Legion Auxiliary

10:45 a.m.

Report of Credentials & Internal Affairs—
Section 2

10:50 a.m.

Report of Credentials & Internal Affairs—
Membership

Presentation of Special Membership Awards
for 1985

By: Clarence M. Bacon (Maryland)
National Commander

Assisted By: National Vice Commanders
Ronald D. Birk (Kansas)
Harold E. Collett (Idaho)
Stewart R. Kunde (Minnesota)
Stephen J. Mikosky
(Pennsylvania)
Robert S. Turner (Georgia)

11:10 a.m.
Report of Americanism

11:30 a.m.
Greetings
Robert W. Brown, M.D.
President
American League of Professional Baseball Clubs

11:35 a.m.
Presentation—Representatives of The American
Legion Youth Programs
1985 Scout of the Year
Peter John Kaboli, Donnellson, Iowa
1985 First Place Winner National Oratorical
Contest
Gwen G. Connolly, Cedarburg, Wisconsin
1985 Boys Nation President
Marcus R. Dilworth, Jr., Yazoo City, Mississippi
1984 Baseball Player of the Year
Jorge Robles, Bayamon, Puerto Rico
1985 Girls Nation President
Laurel Smith, Provo, Utah

11:55 a.m.
Presentation—William Randolph Hearst
Americanism Trophy
By: George B. Irish, *Publisher*
Beaumont Enterprise, Beaumont, Texas
To: Winning Department

12:00 noon
Report of Children & Youth

Salute to Colors

12:15 p.m.
Recess

**NOTE: Times of subsequent sessions and time of
Convention Committee Reports are subject to
change by the chair.**

Tuesday, August 27, 1985

8:30 a.m.
Call to Order
Clarence M. Bacon (Maryland)
National Commander
Salute to Colors
Pledge of Allegiance
Invocation
Rev. Charles G. Rice, Jr. (New York)
National Chaplain

8:40 a.m.
Address
The Honorable Paul D. Wolfowitz
*Assistant Secretary of State for
East Asian and Pacific Affairs*

9:00 a.m.
Report of Foreign Relations

9:25 a.m.
Greetings
William J. Meade, *National President*
The Society of American Legion Founders
Albert Bianchini, *Dominion President*
Army, Navy and Air Force Veterans in Canada
A. Stacey, *First Vice President*
The Royal Canadian Legion
General Cheng Wei-yuan, *Chairman*
Vocational Assistance Commission for
Retired Servicemen
Republic of China
General Seok-Chu Paik, ROKA, *Retired*
President
The Korean Veterans Association

9:50 a.m.
Address
The Honorable Harry N. Walters
Administrator
Veterans Administration

10:10 a.m.
Report of Economics

10:30 a.m.
Presentation—Employer of the Year Awards for
Hiring Veterans
By: Clarence M. Bacon (Maryland)
National Commander
To: John A. Burson, *Personnel Director*
Molycorp, Inc.
Washington, Pennsylvania
To: Jack Shank, *Industrial Relations*
Manager, Television Products Division
Owens-Illinois, Inc.
Pittston, Pennsylvania

10:40 a.m.

Introduction—Sons of The American Legion
Newly Elected National Commander

10:50 a.m.

Report of Finance

11:00 a.m.

Presentation—The American Legion Fourth
Estate Award

By: Clarence M. Bacon (Maryland)
National Commander

To: Judy Daniels, *Acting Managing
Editor Life*
Cheryl McCall
Reporter

11:15 a.m.

Report of Constitutional Amendments

11:45 a.m.

Address

The Honorable G.V. (Sonny) Montgomery
(Mississippi)
*Chairman, House Committee on
Veterans Affairs*

12:05 p.m.

Report of Veterans Affairs and Rehabilitation

Claims and Rating
Hospital and Medical Services

Salute to Colors

12:40 p.m.

Recess

Wednesday, August 28, 1985

9:00 a.m.

Call To Order

Clarence M. Bacon (Maryland)
National Commander

Salute to Colors

Pledge of Allegiance

Invocation

Rev. Charles G. Rice, Jr. (New York)
National Chaplain

9:15 a.m.

Address

Admiral William J. Crowe, Jr.
*Commander in Chief
U.S. Pacific Command*

9:35 a.m.

Report of National Security

Aerospace
Defense Civil Preparedness
Law and Order
Merchant Marine
Military Affairs
Naval Affairs

10:30 a.m.

Presentation—The American Legion Distinguished
Service Award

By: Clarence M. Bacon (Maryland)
National Commander

To: The Honorable Caspar W. Weinberger
The Secretary of Defense

11:00 a.m.

PRESENTATION

11:30 a.m.

**Presentation of Plaque and Colors to Outgoing
National Commander**

By: Robert E.L. Eaton (Maryland)
Past National Commander

12:00 noon

Special Order of Business

Election of National Officers
National Commander

**Administering the Oath of Office to the National
Commander**

Clarence M. Bacon (Maryland)
1984-85 National Commander

**Acceptance Speech by Newly Elected National
Commander**

Election of National Officers
Five (5) National Vice Commanders

1:00 p.m.

**Presentation of Colors to Newly Elected
National Commander**

By: Donald E. Johnson (Iowa)
Past National Commander

Response by Newly Elected National Commander

**Presentation of Newly Elected National President
of The American Legion Auxiliary**

Unfinished Business

Benediction

Retirement of Colors

Final Adjournment

NOTE: Times of subsequent sessions and time of
Convention Committee Reports are subject to
change by the chair.

NOTE: The National Executive Committee will
meet within twenty-four (24) hours after close of
the Convention—upon the call of the National
Commander.

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Oratorical



*Gwen G. Connolly
Cedarburg, Wisconsin
Winner, National High
School Oratorical Contest*

Boys Nation

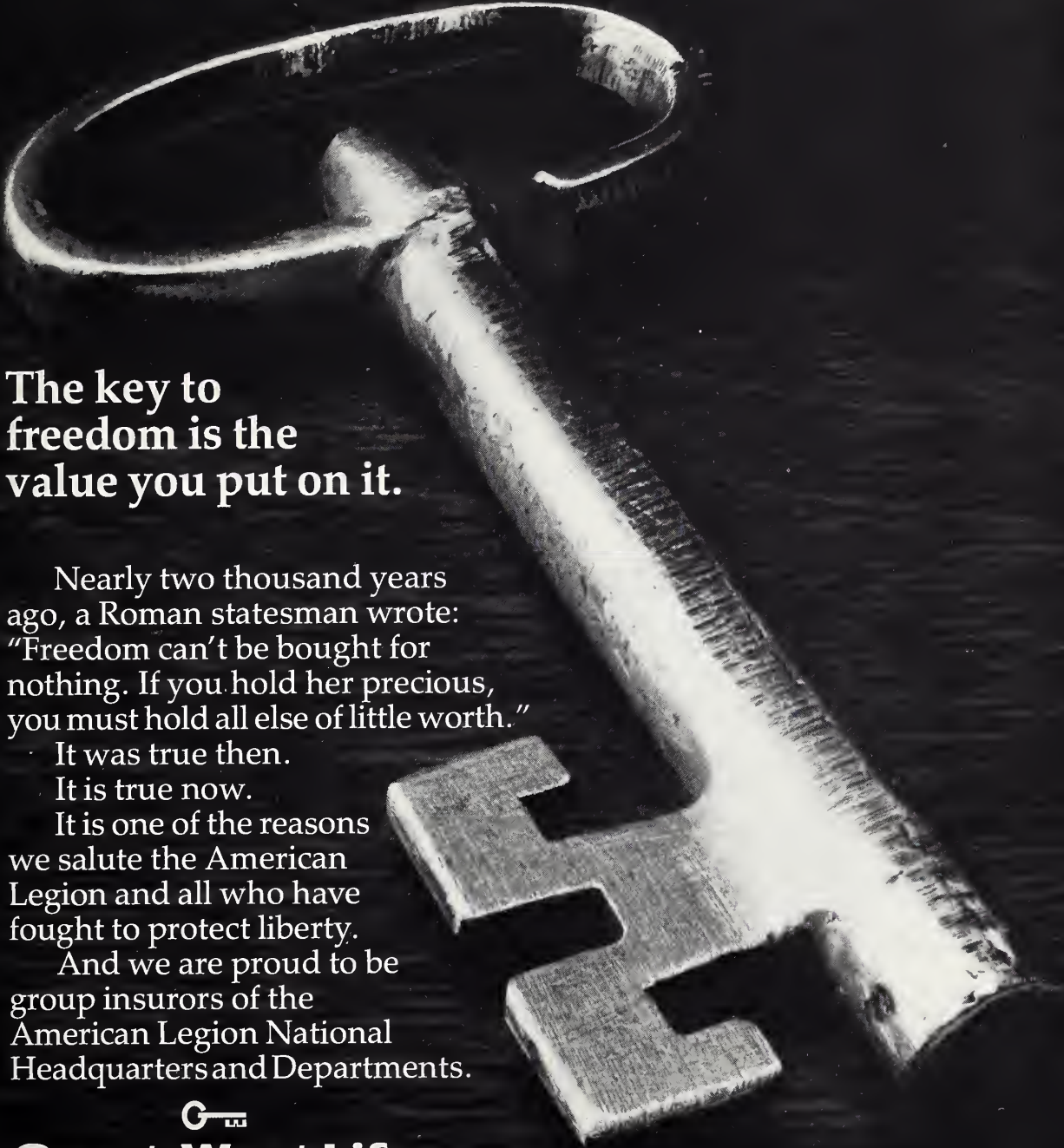


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581-1000

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3rd Floor
Main Ballroom Lobby
Friday, August 23 Through
Tuesday, August 27
Open: 9:00 a.m. Daily

Superdome
Poydras St. Entrance
Monday, August 26 Through
Wednesday, August 28
Open: Daily During Sessions

Auxiliary Display

Sheraton New Orleans Hotel
5th Floor
Ballroom Foyer
Saturday, August 24 Through
Tuesday, August 27
Open: 9:00 a.m. Daily

All locations will have a wide selection of American Legion and American Legion Auxiliary merchandise, National Convention memorabilia and gifts.

The American Legion 67th National Convention

Meeting Room Assignments

Standing Commissions and Committees

Americanism Commission:

August 24, 9:00 a.m.
Regency Ballroom, Section B, 3rd Floor
Hyatt Regency Hotel
Chairman: Dale Renaud
Bondurant, Iowa

Americanism Screening Committee:

August 23, 9:00 a.m.
Rosedown Room, 4th Floor
Hyatt Regency Hotel

Commission on Children & Youth:

August 24, 9:00 a.m.
Regency Ballroom, Section C, 3rd Floor
Hyatt Regency Hotel
Chairman: Eugene V. Lindquist
Clarissa, Minnesota

Constitution and By-Laws Committee:

August 24, 9:00 a.m.
Elmwood Room, 4th Floor
Hyatt Regency Hotel
Chairman: Francis L. Giordano
Brooklyn, New York

Convention Commission:

August 24, 9:00 a.m.
Magnolia Room, 4th Floor
Hyatt Regency Hotel
Chairman: Wendell G. Williams
Madison, Wisconsin

Distinguished Guest Committee:

August 24, 9:00 a.m.
Regency Ballroom, Section D, 3rd Floor
Hyatt Regency Hotel
Chairman: Maurice E. Druhl
Beaverton, Oregon

Economic Commission:

August 24, 9:00 a.m.
Dauphine Room, 4th Floor
Hyatt Regency Hotel
Chairman: Frank A. Kelly
Savannah, Georgia

Economic Screening Committee:

August 23, 9:00 a.m.
Buena Vista Room, 4th Floor
Hyatt Regency Hotel

Emblem Committee:

August 24 & 25, 9:00 a.m.
Board Room, 3rd Floor
Hyatt Regency Hotel
Chairman: Frank Johnston
Washington, Illinois

Finance Commission:

August 24, 9:00 a.m.
Versailles Room, 4th Floor
Hyatt Regency Hotel
Chairman: Walton D. Griffin
Clarksville, Tennessee

American Legion Life Insurance and Trust Committee:

August 24, 9:00 a.m.
Press Room, 3rd Floor
Hyatt Regency Hotel
Chairman: Jerome P. Dobel, Jr.
Kansas City, Missouri

Foreign Relations Commission:

Joint meeting with National Security Commission
August 24, 9:00 a.m.
Meeting Room 9, 2nd Floor Level
Superdome
Chairman: Melvin (Doc) Simon
White River Junction, Vermont

Internal Affairs Commission:

August 24, 9:00 a.m.
Regency Ballroom, Section G, 3rd Floor
Hyatt Regency Hotel
Chairman: Herman G. Harrington
Rensselaer, New York

Membership & Post Activities Committee:

August 24, 9:00 a.m.
Regency Ballroom, Section H, 3rd Floor
Hyatt Regency Hotel
Chairman: Douglas W. Henley
Woodbine, Maryland

Legislative Commission:

August 24, 9:00 a.m.
Burgundy Room, Section D, 4th Floor
Hyatt Regency Hotel
Chairman: Gary W. Sammons
Ecorse, Michigan

National Security Commission:

Joint meeting with Foreign

Relations Commission

August 24, 9:00 a.m.

Meeting Room 9, 2nd Floor Level

Superdome

Chairman: Roger A. Munson

Mentor, Ohio

Public Relations Commission:

August 24, 9:00 a.m.

Burgundy Room, Section C, 4th Floor

Hyatt Regency Hotel

Chairman: William M. Detweiler

New Orleans, Louisiana

Resolutions Assignment Committee:

August 22 - 25, 9:00 a.m.

Ashland Room, 4th Floor

Hyatt Regency Hotel

Chairman: Alex M. Geiger

Gaston, South Carolina

The American Legion Magazine Commission:

August 24, 9:00 a.m.

Burgundy Room, Section B, 4th Floor

Hyatt Regency Hotel

Chairman: Milford A. Forrester

Greenville, South Carolina

**Veterans Affairs and Rehabilitation
Commission:**

August 24, 9:00 a.m.

Regency Ballroom Section E, 3rd Floor,

Hyatt Regency Hotel

Chairman: William F. Lenker

Sioux Falls, South Dakota

**Veterans Affairs and Rehabilitation
Screening Committee:**

August 23 and 24, 9:00 a.m.

Oak Manor Room, 4th Floor

Hyatt Regency Hotel

**National Executive Committee
August 25, 1:30 p.m.**

Regency Ballroom, Section E, 3rd Floor

Hyatt Regency Hotel

Chairman: National Commander Clarence M. Bacon

Hyattsville, Maryland

S.A.L. Meetings**14th Annual Sons of
The American Legion Convention**

(Executive Committee)

Aug. 23, 7:00 - 9:00 p.m.

Mardi Gras Room

Section D, 3rd Floor

Marriott Hotel

**14th Annual Sons of
The American Legion Convention**

(General Sessions)

Aug. 24, 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. and

Aug. 25, 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Mardi Gras Room

Section D, 3rd Floor

Marriott Hotel

Meetings of Convention Committees

The following Convention Committees will be composed of one delegate from each Department. Initial meetings of Convention Committees will be at the time and place as shown below. Subsequent meetings will be at the call of the chairman.

Meetings of Convention Committees normally will be closed to all except committee members.

Americanism Hyatt Regency Hotel

August 25, 8:30 a.m.
Regency Ballroom, Section B, 3rd Floor
Baseball and Recreation Subcommittee
August 25, 9:30 a.m.
Rosedown Room, 4th Floor
Immigration and Naturalization Subcommittee
August 25, 9:30 a.m.
Buena Vista Room, 4th Floor
Counter-Subversive Activities Subcommittee
August 25, 9:30 a.m.
Elmwood Room, 4th Floor
Youth Activities Subcommittee
August 25, 9:30 a.m.
Regency Ballroom, Section B, 3rd Floor

Children & Youth Hyatt Regency Hotel

August 25, 9:00 a.m.
Regency Ballroom, Section C, 3rd Floor

Constitutional

Amendments Hyatt Regency Hotel

August 25, 9:00 a.m.
Burgundy Room, Sections B & C, 4th Floor

Credentials and Internal

Affairs Hyatt Regency Hotel

Sections I & II
Credentials and Other Internal Matters
August 25, 9:00 a.m.
Regency Ballroom, Section G, 3rd Floor
Membership
Section III
August 25, 9:00 a.m.
Regency Ballroom, Section H, 3rd Floor

Economic Hyatt Regency Hotel

Employment and Veterans Preference
August 25, 9:00 a.m.
Royale Room, 4th Floor
Other Economic Matters
August 25, 9:00 a.m.
Dauphine Room, 4th Floor

Finance Hyatt Regency Hotel

August 25, 9:00 a.m.
Versailles Room, 4th Floor

Foreign Relations Superdome

August 25, 9:00 a.m.
Meeting Room 4, 2nd Floor
(All Subcommittee Rooms in Superdome —
Meetings at 9:30 a.m.)

Foreign Relations—Continued

Inter-American Affairs
Reception Rooms 1 & 2, 2nd Floor
European Affairs
Reception Rooms 3 & 4, 2nd Floor
African Affairs
Reception Rooms 5 & 6, 2nd Floor
Far Eastern Affairs
Meeting Room 2, 2nd Floor
Middle Eastern Affairs
Reception Room 7, 2nd Floor
General Foreign Policy Meeting
2:00 p.m.
Room 4, 2nd Floor

Legislation & Rules Hyatt Regency Hotel

August 25, 10:00 a.m.
Burgundy Room, Section D, 4th Floor

National Security Committee Superdome

August 25, 9:00 a.m.
Meeting Room 9, 2nd Floor
(All Subcommittee Rooms in Superdome—
Meetings at 9:30 a.m.)
Military Affairs Meeting
Meeting Room 9, 2nd Floor
General Security Ad Hoc
Meeting Room 9, 2nd Floor
Aerospace Committee
Reception Room 10 & 11, 2nd Floor
Defense Civil Preparedness
Meeting Room 11, 2nd Floor
Law and Order
Reception Room 14, 2nd Floor
Merchant Marine
Reception Room 12 & 13, 2nd Floor
Naval Affairs
Reception Room 8 & 9, 2nd Floor
General Security Meeting
(All subcommittees, 2:00 p.m.)
Meeting Room 9, 2nd Floor)

Veterans Affairs &

Rehabilitation Hyatt Regency Hotel

Claims and Rating & Hospitals and
Medical Services (Joint Meeting)
August 25, 9:00 a.m.
Regency Ballroom, Section F, 3rd Floor
Hospitals and Medical Services
August 25, 9:30 a.m.
Burgundy Room, Section A, 4th Floor



*Wendell G.
Williams
Chairman*



*James J.
Charleston
Vice Chairman*



*John A.
Guirovich, Jr.*



Jack Tancred



Cleo T. Martin



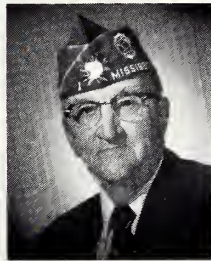
Glenn R. Green



*Dr. Stacey A.
Garner*



Richard H. Klinge



Ralph M. Godwin



*H. Gordon
Burleigh*



*Earnest N.
Schmit*

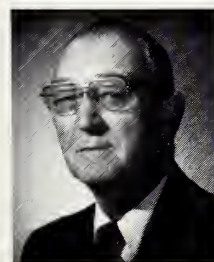


*William E.
Christoffersen
Ex-officio*

1985 National Convention Commission



*Harry L. Foster
National
Commander's
Representative*



*Frank C. Momsen
Consultant*



*Daniel R.
O'Sullivan
Consultant*



*George E. Osborne
Advisory*



*Richard M. Pedro
Advisory*



*C.J. Wright, Jr.
Advisory*



*W.D. Harrell
Chairman
Liaison*



*Lawrence E. Fisher
Liaison*



*Frank C.
Bottigliero
Liaison*



*William F. Liddle
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*Fred M. Ingellis
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*Maurice E. Druhl
Chairman
Distinguished
Guests*



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Reunions and Dinners

Twenty and Four

Fairmont Hotel
August 21-23
Bivouac—University Room
August 23
Banquet—Emerald Room—7:30 p.m.

Historians' and Founders' Luncheon & Meetings

Hyatt Regency Hotel
Regency Ballroom, Section F
Saturday, August 24—12:00 Noon

Founders' Meeting—following Luncheon
Rosedown Room

ANAVICUS

Army, Navy and Air Force Veterans in Canada

Hyatt Regency Hotel
Regency Ballroom C
Breakfast Meeting
Sunday, August 25—7:00 a.m.

National Organization of World War Nurses Reunion

Hyatt Regency Hotel
Press Room
Sunday, August 25—8:00 a.m.

National American Legion Press Association (NALPA)

LePavillon Hotel
Renaissance Room
Meeting
Sunday, August 25—1:00 p.m.

Versailles Ballroom
Awards Banquet
Monday, August 26—6:30 p.m.

FODPAL Breakfast Meeting

Hyatt Regency Hotel
Regency Ballroom A
Monday, August 26—7:00 a.m.

Past Department Commanders Luncheon

Hyatt Regency Hotel
Regency Ballroom E
Reception and Luncheon
Monday, August 26—11:45 a.m.

American Legion Auxiliary States Dinner

Sheraton New Orleans Hotel
Grand Ballroom
Monday, August 26—7:30 p.m.

National Commander's Banquet For Distinguished Guests

Hyatt Regency Hotel
Regency Ballroom
Tuesday, August 27—7:30 p.m.

National Yeomen (F) Reunion

Fairmont Hotel
August 26-27
Luncheon
Tuesday, August 27—12:30 p.m.

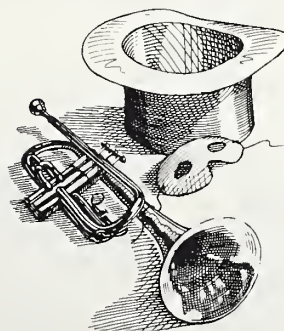
American Legion College Class of 1954

Fairmont Hotel
Loyola Room
Breakfast
Wednesday, August 28—7:00 a.m.

Eight and Forty

Sheraton New Orleans Hotel
Pontchartrain Ballroom C & D
Installation Dinner
Friday, August 30—7:00 p.m.

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**GET
INVOLVED!**

Region 1 - New Hampshire (Host Department), Connecticut, Maine, Vermont, Massachusetts and Rhode Island — September 6-8, 1985. Holiday Inn, Manchester, New Hampshire, single \$50. Double \$50, for reservations telephone (800) HOLIDAY or (603) 625-1000, cut-off date for reservations is August 23.

Region 2 - Delaware (Host Department), West Virginia, District of Columbia, Maryland, New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania and Virginia — September 20-22, 1985. Radisson, Wilmington, Delaware, Single \$45, Double \$55, for reservations telephone (800) 228-9822 or (302) 655-0400, cut-off date for reservations is September 6.

Region 3 - Kentucky (Host Department), Tennessee, Florida, Georgia, South Carolina, North Carolina and Alabama — September 20-22, 1985. Hyatt, Louisville, Kentucky, Single \$53, Double \$63, for reservations telephone (800) 228-9822 or (502) 587-3434, cut-off date for reservations is August 30.

Region 4 - Texas (Host Department), Louisiana, Mississippi, Arkansas, and Oklahoma — September 13-15, 1985. Hilton, Fort Worth, Texas, Single \$47, Double \$58, for reservations telephone (817) 335-7000, cut-off date for reservations is August 13.

Region 5 - Wisconsin (Host Department), Illinois, Indiana, Ohio, Michigan and Missouri — September 6-8, 1985. Marriott, Brookfield, Wisconsin, single \$50, Double \$50, for reservations telephone (414) 786-1100, cut-off date for reservations is August 13.

Region 6 - Iowa, (Host Department), Minnesota, North Dakota, South Dakota, Nebraska and Kansas — September 27-29, 1985. Hyatt (Primary Hotel), Des Moines, Iowa, Single \$44, Double \$44, for reservations telephone (800) 228-9000 or (515) 285-1234; Airport Hilton (Overflow), Single \$46, Double \$46, for reservations telephone (515) 287-2400, cut-off date for reservations is September 13.

Region 7 - Nevada (Host Department), California, Arizona, New Mexico, Colorado, Hawaii and Utah — September 27-29, 1985. Union Plaza, Las Vegas, Nevada, single \$40, Double \$40, for reservations telephone (800) 634-6575 or (702) 386-2110, cut-off date for reservations is August 27.

Region 8 - Oregon, (Host Department), Montana, Idaho, Washington, Alaska and Wyoming — September 13-15, 1985. Marriott, Portland, Oregon, Single \$46, Double \$50, for reservations telephone (503) 226-7600, cut-off date for reservations is August 23.

*Registration Fee \$5.00 Per Person. For Registration and
Information Contact Your Department Adjutant or Secretary.*

The American Legion

First District Convention Corporation of Louisiana

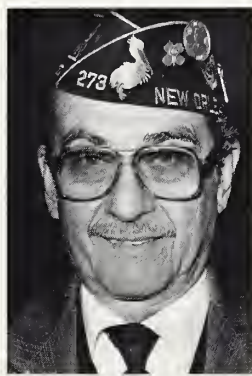
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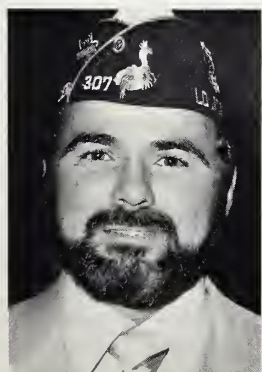
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Standing Rules of the National Convention

The following are the Standing Rules of the National Convention as contained in the "UNIFORM CODE OF PROCEDURE FOR THE ORGANIZATION OF NATIONAL CONVENTIONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION," authorized under Article V, Section 6, of the National Constitution of The American Legion.

Standing Rules of the National Convention

1. Robert's Revised Rules of Order shall be the authority on parliamentary procedure, with the following modifications:
2. A delegate desiring to make a motion or address the Convention, shall rise, address the Chair as "Mr. Commander" and state his name and the name of the Department before proceeding.
3. Debate shall be limited to five minutes for each speaker.
4. Debate on any one subject presented to the Convention shall be limited to two hours except under such special rule as the Convention shall adopt prior to debate.
5. But two delegates from any one delegation shall be permitted the floor on any one question. Where disagreement exists within a delegation one delegate shall be permitted to speak on each side of the question. Upon a division of the question, however, this rule shall be applied separately for each division.
6. The floor shall be permitted but once to any individual delegate on any one question, except by a two-thirds vote of the Convention. Chairmen of Convention Committees may speak as frequently as may be necessary in connection with the reports of their committees. The Presiding Officer shall not entertain any motion which will curtail further debate without affording the Committee Chairman an opportunity for rebuttal.
7. Decisions on Rules of Debate or parliamentary order by the Presiding Officer may be subject to appeal by any two delegates under a Point of Order. Such appeal shall take precedence over any pending questions and shall be decided forthwith. An appeal from the decision of the Chair shall be put to the Convention on the question: "Shall the Chair be sustained?"
8. When the poll of any Department Delegation is demanded by a delegate of such department, the Convention Secretary shall poll the vote without discussion of the question being voted upon.
9. On the Roll Calls, the delegation Chairman shall poll his delegation on the floor and announce its vote.
10. In the event a delegation secretary is not an accredited delegate or alternate, he shall be seated with his delegation.
11. Past National Commanders' votes shall be cast with their delegations.
12. Only accredited delegates or their alternates, shall participate, directly or indirectly, in a viva voce vote on any subject before the convention.
13. Department delegations may arrive at a vote in such manner as they choose, but shall announce it in terms of full units and not in terms of a fractional part of a vote. The vote of any delegate absent and not represented by an alternate shall be cast by the majority of the delegates present from his Department.
14. There shall be no unit rule of voting.
15. Voting shall be by acclamation, except when a Roll Call is demanded by the Chairman of at least three Departments. Election of National Officers shall be by roll call.
16. In the event a Department has not provided the method by which alternates shall be designated to serve in the place of absent delegates, the Chairman of the delegation shall make such designation.
17. Prior to the election of National Officers, the National Commander shall appoint, subject to approval of the Convention, a Judge of Election and such number of tellers as he deems necessary, provided that the total tellers so appointed shall be an odd number. In a contested election each candidate going to the ballot shall be entitled to one teller of his choice.
18. Nominations for National Officers shall be from the floor on Roll Call of the Departments alphabetically arranged. Each Department may present as many candidates as it chooses.
19. Nominating speeches for National Officers shall be limited to five minutes each. Not more than two seconding speeches shall be made for any candidate, and said speeches shall be limited to three minutes.

20. When more than two candidates are nominated for any office, balloting shall continue until one candidate receives a majority of the votes of the Convention, except in the election of National Vice Commanders.

21. In a contested election for National Vice Commanders, balloting shall continue until (a) majorities and (b) pluralities are established for one or more candidates under the following provisions:

If, on any ballot taken, less than five candidates receive the necessary majority to elect, the candidate or candidates receiving a majority vote shall be declared elected and a new ballot shall be taken for the remaining number of places to be filled. The candidate receiving the lowest number of votes on the preceding ballot shall be disqualified; except should two candidates remain to fill one place, a new ballot shall be taken.

22. The Convention will nominate and elect a National Commander, and five National Vice Commanders, in this sequence.

23. At the conclusion of balloting on National Vice Commanders, each Department Delegation Chairman shall deliver a written ballot to the tellers. Such ballots shall be in the hands of the tellers before communication is made to the National Commander for announcement of the results.

24. Those recognized by the National Commander shall be entitled to a respectful hearing, and the

Chair shall have the authority to clear the gallery or the floor or have the Sergeant-at-Arms escort from the Convention any one creating a disturbance or interfering with orderly procedure.

25. None of the above rules shall be construed as preventing an alternate delegate from serving on a Convention committee.

26. The consent of two-thirds of the voting strength of the Convention is necessary for suspension of the standing rules of the Convention.

27. Any amendment to any resolution or report originating on the floor shall be presented in writing and transmitted to the Presiding Officer at the time of the introduction of such amendment.

28. Special rules applying to specific issues or order of business, shall be written and presented to the Convention by the Legislation and Rules Committee for adoption by majority vote at least one hour before such issue, or order, is to be considered unless such rule is agreed to by unanimous consent of the final session.

Special rules shall prevail only in the Convention adopting them.

Any delegate may apply for a special rule to the Legislation and Rules Committee or may appeal to the Convention for such special rule provided the rule be presented in writing, be read once from the platform, and shall lay upon the table at least one hour before the vote thereon is taken.



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American Legion Displays

Hyatt Regency Hotel
3rd Floor
Main Ballroom Lobby
Friday, August 23 through
Tuesday, August 27
Open 9:00 a.m. Daily

Superdome
Poydras St. Entrance
Monday, August 26 through
Wednesday, August 28
Open Daily During Sessions

Auxiliary Display

Sheraton New Orleans Hotel
5th Floor
Ballroom Foyer
Saturday, August 24 through
Tuesday, August 27
Open: 9:00 a.m. Daily

All locations will have a wide selection of American Legion and American Legion Auxiliary merchandise, National Convention memorabilia and gifts.

Patriotic Religious Service

Regency Ballroom, Hyatt Regency Hotel
Sunday, August 25, 1985 — 11:00 a.m.

Welcome

Advancement of Colors (Audience Standing)

Invocation (Audience Standing)

Lin LaMar (LA), Department Chaplain
American Legion Auxiliary

Pledge of Allegiance (Audience Standing)

Call to Worship

Tom O'Brien (FL), National Chaplain
Sons of The American Legion

Musical Selection

Inspirational Choir
St. Michael's Church, New Orleans

Reading of the Holy Scriptures

Rev. Jerry Salveson (ND), Department Chaplain
Rev. Frank Ockert (AK), Department Chaplain

Hymn (Audience Standing)

"Almighty Father, Strong to Save"

Memorial Prayer

Mrs. Levelma Simmons (AL), National Chaplain
American Legion Auxiliary

Musical Selection

Inspirational Choir

Memorial Message

Rev. Charles G. Rice, Jr. (NY),
National Chaplain
The American Legion

Hymn (Audience Standing)

"God of Our Fathers, Whose Almighty Hand"

Placing of Memorial Wreaths (Audience Standing)

Clarence M. Bacon (MD), National Commander
Robert W. Spanogle (MI), National Adjutant
The American Legion

Mrs. Helen Gardner (FL), National President
Mrs. Miriam Junge (OH), National Secretary
American Legion Auxiliary

Mrs. Helene Mardu (CT), Le Chapeau National
Mrs. May Malone (FL), La Secretaire Caissiere
Eight and Forty

Woodrow L. Mudge (CO), National Commander
D. David Bourland, Jr. (TX), National Adjutant
Sons of The American Legion

Moment of Meditation (Audience Standing)

Taps (Audience Standing)

Retirement of Colors (Audience Standing)

Benediction (Audience Standing)

William E. Wunderlich (LA), Department
Chaplain
The American Legion

Choir Director

Connie Arceneaux, St. Michael's Church

Pianist

Warren Warrick, St. Michael's Church

Bugler

Frank Alessi, Crescent City Post #125 Band





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ENROLLMENT CARD

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—O.J. Simpson



Growing up is tough. That's why kids need the Boys' Clubs of America. The Boys' Clubs stay open to give kids a place to go and a chance to make friends. The Clubs are run by trained adults with a lot of heart and the time to listen.

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From Original Paintings by F.R. Petrie and S. Groenke,
Volunteer Artists with the Coast Guard Art Program (COGAP)



The American Legion 1919-1984

Past National Commanders

**Franklin D'Olier*
Pennsylvania 1919-20

***Frederick W. Galbraith, Jr.*
Ohio 1920-21

****John G. Emery*
Michigan 1921

**Hanford MacNider*
Iowa 1921-22

**Alvin M. Owsley*
Texas 1922-23

**John R. Quinn*
California 1923-24

**James A. Drain*
District of Columbia 1924-25

**John R. McQuigg*
Ohio 1925-26

**Howard P. Savage*
Illinois 1926-27

**Edward E. Spafford*
New York 1927-28

**Paul V. McNutt*
Indiana 1928-29

**O. Lee Bodenhamer*
Arkansas 1929-30

**Ralph T. O'Neil*
Kansas 1930-31

**Henry L. Stevens, Jr.*
North Carolina 1931-32

**Louis Johnson*
West Virginia 1932-33

**Edward A. Hayes*
Illinois 1933-34

**Frank N. Belgrano, Jr.*
California 1934-35

**Ray Murphy*
Iowa 1935-36

**Harry W. Colmery*
Kansas 1936-37

**Daniel J. Doherty*
Massachusetts 1937-38

**Stephen F. Chadwick*
Washington 1938-39

**Raymond J. Kelly*
Michigan 1939-40

**Milo J. Warner*
Ohio 1940-41

**Lynn U. Stambaugh*
North Dakota 1941-42

**Roane Waring*
Tennessee 1942-43

**Warren H. Atherton*
California 1943-44

**Edward N. Scheiberling*
New York 1944-45

**John Stelle*
Illinois 1945-46

**Paul H. Griffith*
Pennsylvania 1946-47

**James F. O'Neil*
New Hampshire 1947-48

**Perry Brown*
Texas 1948-49

George N. Craig
Indiana 1949-50

Erle Cocke, Jr.
Georgia 1950-51

**Donald R. Wilson*
West Virginia 1951-52

**Lewis K. Gough*
California 1952-53

**Arthur J. Connell*
Connecticut 1953-54

**Seaborn P. Collins*
New Mexico 1954-55

J. Addington Wagner
Michigan 1955-56

Dan Daniel
Virginia 1956-57

John S. Gleason, Jr.
Illinois 1957-58

Preston J. Moore
Oklahoma 1958-59

Martin B. McKneally
New York 1959-60

William R. Burke
California 1960-61

Charles L. Bacon
Missouri 1961-62

**James E. Powers*
Georgia 1962-63

Daniel F. Foley
Minnesota 1963-64

Donald E. Johnson
Iowa 1964-65

L. Eldon James
Virginia 1965-66

John E. Davis
North Dakota 1966-67

William E. Galbraith
Nebraska 1967-68

William C. Doyle
New Jersey 1968-69

J. Milton Patrick
Oklahoma 1969-70

Alfred P. Chamie
California 1970-71

John H. Geiger
Illinois 1971-72

Joe L. Matthews
Texas 1972-73

Robert E. L. Eaton
Maryland 1973-74

James M. Wagonseller
Ohio 1974-75

Harry G. Wiles
Kansas 1975-76

William J. Rogers
Maine 1976-77

Robert Charles Smith
Louisiana 1977-78

John M. Carey
Michigan 1978-79

Frank I. Hamilton
Indiana 1979-80

Michael J. Kogutek
New York 1980-81

Jack W. Flynt
Texas 1981-82

Al Keller, Jr.
Illinois 1982-83

Keith Kreul
Wisconsin 1983-84

Past National Commanders By Vote Of National Convention

**Bennett Champ Clark*
Missouri—Presided at Paris
caucus—March, 1919

**Milton J. Foreman*
Illinois—Chairman, Execu-
tive Committee at Paris

**Henry D. Lindsley*
Texas—Presided at St. Louis
caucus—May 1919

**Theodore Roosevelt, Jr.*
New York

**Eric Fisher Wood*
Pennsylvania—Temporary
Chairman and Secretary at
Paris caucus

**Thomas W. Miller*
Nevada—Chairman Pro
Tempore
Paris Caucus March 1919

**Maurice Stember*
New York

Hamilton Fish, Sr.
New York

Honorary National Commanders

**General John J. Pershing*
**Marshal Ferdinand Foch*

**Deceased*

***Killed in auto accident
while serving as
Commander*

****Elected by Executive
Committee to fill unexpired
term.*

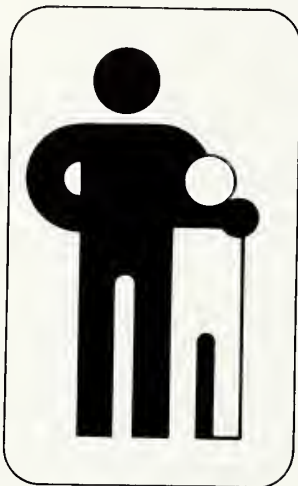
Recipients of The American Legion Distinguished Service Medal

Honorable Caspar W. Weinberger, The Secretary of Defense 1985
--

- | | | |
|--|--|--|
| 1921— <i>Marshal Ferdinand Foch of France</i>
<i>Adm. Earl Beatty of Great Britain</i>
<i>Gen. Baron Jacques of Belgium</i>
<i>Gen. Armando Diaz of Italy</i>
<i>Charles Bertrand of France</i>
1922— <i>Gen. of the Armies John J. Pershing</i>
1923— <i>Adm. Robert E. Coontz</i>
<i>Gen. Josef Haller of Poland</i>
1926— <i>Ignace Jan Paderewski of Poland</i>
1927— <i>Comte Francois Marie Robert Dejean of France</i>
1928— <i>Field Marshal Viscount Allenby of Great Britain</i>
1929— <i>Judge Kenesaw Mountain Landis</i>
1930— <i>Adm. William S. Sims</i>
1942— <i>Gen. Douglas A. MacArthur</i>
1943— <i>Gen. George C. Marshall</i>
<i>Adm. Ernest J. King</i>
1944— <i>Hon. Frank Knox*</i>
<i>Henry Ford</i>
<i>Gen. H.H. Arnold</i>
1945— <i>President Franklin D. Roosevelt*</i>
1945— <i>Gen. Theodore Roosevelt, Jr.*</i>
<i>Ernest (Ernie) Pyle*</i>
<i>Hon. Henry L. Stimson</i>
<i>Fleet Adm. Chester W. Nimitz</i>
<i>Gen. of the Army Dwight D. Eisenhower</i>
1946— <i>J. Edgar Hoover</i>
<i>Bob Hope</i>
<i>William Randolph Hearst</i> | 1946— <i>Maj. Gen. Lewis B. Hershey</i>
<i>Hon. Cordell Hull</i>
1947— <i>Lt. Gen. William S. Knudsen</i>
<i>Sen. Edward Martin</i>
<i>Chief Justice Fred M. Vinson</i>
1949— <i>President Harry S. Truman</i>
<i>George Herman (Babe) Ruth*</i>
<i>Maj. Gen. Frank Parker*</i>
1950— <i>Charles F. Johnson, Jr.</i>
<i>Maj. Gen. Milton A. Reckord</i>
<i>Rep. Edith Nourse Rogers</i>
1951— <i>Gen. Charles P. Summerall</i>
1953— <i>Rep. Royal C. Johnson*</i>
1954— <i>Maj. Gen. George A. White*</i>
1955— <i>Dr. Jonas E. Salk</i>
<i>Maj. Gen. Ellard A. Walsh</i>
1956— <i>Vice Adm. Joel T. Boone</i>
<i>Charles Stewart Mott</i>
1957— <i>Gen. Mark W. Clark</i>
<i>The Most Reverend Fulton J. Sheen</i>
1958— <i>Bernard Mannes Baruch</i>
<i>Unknown Servicemen of World War I, World War II, and Korea, Interred at the Tomb of the Unknown soldier, Arlington National Cemetery</i>
1959— <i>Sen. Robert S. Kerr</i>
1961— <i>President John F. Kennedy</i>
1962— <i>Gen. Lucius D. Clay</i>
<i>Dr. Thomas A. Dooley*</i>
1963— <i>Francis Cardinal Spellman</i> | 1964— <i>Dr. Charles W. Mayo</i>
1965— <i>President Herbert C. Hoover*</i>
<i>Hon. James F. Byrnes</i>
1966— <i>Capt. Roger H. C. Donlon</i>
1967— <i>Hon. Tom C. Clark</i>
1968— <i>President Lyndon B. Johnson</i>
<i>Gen. William C. Westmoreland</i>
1969— <i>President Richard M. Nixon</i>
1970— <i>Rep. Olin E. Teague</i>
1971— <i>Rep. L. Mendel Rivers*</i>
<i>Sen. Richard B. Russell*</i>
1972— <i>Sen. John C. Stennis</i>
<i>Dewitt Wallace</i>
1974— <i>Hon. Henry A. Kissinger</i>
<i>Rep. F. Edward Hebert</i>
1975— <i>Harry W. Colmery</i>
1976— <i>Pat O'Brien</i>
1977— <i>Howard A. Rusk, M.D.</i>
1978— <i>Bowie K. Kuhn</i>
1979— <i>Thomas A. Murphy</i>
1980— <i>President Gerald R. Ford</i>
<i>Dead & Missing of the Vietnam War</i>
1981— <i>American Space Shuttle Astronauts John Young and Robert Crippen</i>
1982— <i>President Ronald W. Reagan</i>
1983— <i>Adm. Hyman G. Rickover</i>
1984— <i>Sen. J. Strom Thurmond</i> |
|--|--|--|

*Awarded Posthumously

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Your contributions have helped thousands of American children through education and information. The many problems confronting our nation's youth can be devastating. Your thoughtfulness has helped to reduce the impact and severity. Our very best to you, with sincere appreciation for all of your support.

American Legion Child Welfare Foundation, Inc.
P.O. Box 1055
Indianapolis, Indiana 46206



Where are you
headed,
Boy Scout?



Where are you headed, Boy Scout?

I'm not quite sure, but I do know this, I'm going places.

Do you have any particular place in mind?

Not yet, I'm keeping my options open. For instance I may want to play football.

A good choice. A former Scout made that choice and he's doing pretty well at it. Herschel Walker!

But, I'm pretty good at swimming too.

So was another Scout. He won six Gold Medals at the Olympics, Mark Spitz. Scout Bruce Jenner was a big Olympic winner, too.

Sometimes I think I'd like to make movies.

Another Scout had the same dream. He produced E.T. and Jaws. Steven Spielberg.

My Mom says I have the gift of gab and should be on TV.

Another Mom said that to a son. You'll see this former Scout on Good Morning America. David Hartman.

Dad says I'm a good organizer. Maybe I should become a business man.

Another Scout made that decision. He became the Chief Executive of Exxon, America's largest energy corporation. Clifton Garvin.

I do odd jobs and save a lot of money. Maybe I should be a banker.

That's what another Scout decided. He became head of Citicorp, the nation's largest bank. Walter Wriston.

Then when I read the headlines I get angry about where our country is headed.

So did a lot of other Scouts. They went into politics. In the 97th Congress, 51 Senators and 202 Congressmen were former Scouts.

But I may aim even higher and go for President.

You mean just like John F. Kennedy and Gerald Ford, two former Scouts.

I get restless. I'd like to travel, even into outer space.

Nothing wrong with that. America's first man in space was a former Scout leader. John Glenn.

But I'm talking about the moon.

You'd be in good company. The first man on the moon was a former Scout. Neil Armstrong.

Well, whatever I do, I'd sure like to hit a home run.

So did another Scout. As a matter of fact he hit more than any one else. Hank Aaron.

Sir, I appreciate the encouragement you have given me. Can I give you some?

Of course.

It's just two words.

Just two words?

That's right. They were written when the Scouts were first organized. Since then more than 70 million boys have been in Scouting and they have lived by these words. They were great in 1910 and they're greater today. They apply to everyone who wants to accomplish something in life. They apply to the most humble house in America and to the White House.

I'd like to know those two words, son. What are they?

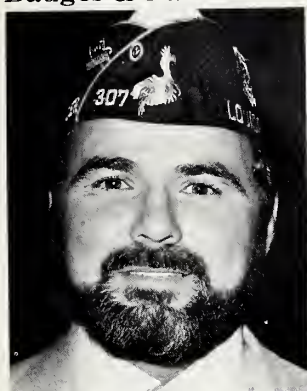
Be prepared!

Sponsored by
a friend of Scouting on the 75th Anniversary of The Boy Scouts of America. 1910-1985

*From a speech by Robert H. Steele, Chairman,
Dollar Dry Dock Savings Bank, New York.*

Committee Chairmen of The American Legion First District Convention Corporation of Louisiana

Badges & Packets



*Herbert Petit, Jr.
Chairman*

Contests



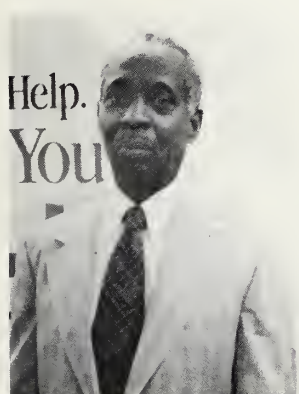
*Alvin A. Roche
Chairman*

Distinguished Guests



*Anthony Lentini
Chairman*

First Aid



*Henry Johnson
Chairman*

Memorial Services



*William E. Wunderlick
Chairman*

Parade



*Henry M. Morris
Chairman*

Provost



*Lt. Peter A. Hand
Chairman*

Registration & Information



*Robert Wilson
Co-Chairman*

Registration & Information



*James Carter
Co-Chairman*

American Legion Auxiliary



*Eleanor Gremillion
Chairman*

8 et 40



*Hazel Landry
Chairman*

American Legion Auxiliary National Officers



*Mrs. Helen Gardner
National President*



*Mrs. Josie Melgard
National Vice President*



*Mrs. Pat Wolverton
Vice President
Central Division*



*Mrs. Katherine Foley
Vice President
Eastern Division*



*Mrs. Thelma Foster
Vice President
Northwestern Division*



*Miss Lib Stewart
Vice President
Southern Division*



*Mrs. Betty Sampson
Vice President
Western Division*



*Mrs. Levelma Simmons
National Chaplain*



*Mrs. Del Bunnell
National Historian*



*Mrs. Miriam Junge
National Secretary*



*Mrs. Peggy Sappenfield
National Treasurer*

American Legion Auxiliary

Sixty-Fifth Annual National Convention

1985

Sheraton New Orleans Hotel

New Orleans, Louisiana

Theme: "Invest In America"

Saturday, August 24, 1985

9-10:15 a.m.	Pre-Convention National Executive Committee Meeting, Aurora Room
2-4 p.m.	National Junior Registration, Foyer Outside Bayside Room B

Pre-Convention Committee Meetings

2-4:30 p.m.

Group A — Grand Ballroom D Presiding—Mrs. Katherine Foley	Americanism Foreign Relations National Security
Group B — Grand Ballroom C Presiding—Mrs. Thelma Foster	Children and Youth Liaison with Child Welfare Foundation Education Girls State
Group C — Grand Ballroom A Presiding—Miss Elizabeth Stewart	Junior Activities Auxiliary Emergency Fund Public Relations
Group D — Grand Ballroom B Presiding—Mrs. Pat Wolverton	Legislative Past Presidents Parley Poppy Veterans Affairs and Rehabilitation
Group E — Grand Ballroom E Presiding—Mrs. Betty Sampson	Chaplains Community Service Historians
Group F — Pontchartrain Ballroom A Presiding—Mrs. Syble Deshotel	Constitution and Bylaws Leadership Permanent Organization Rules
Group G — Pontchartrain Ballroom C Presiding—Mrs. Rita George	Membership
Group H — Pontchartrain Ballroom B Presiding—Mrs. Vivian Stratton	Credentials
Group I — Pontchartrain Ballroom D Presiding—Mrs. Odette Cuccaro	Resolutions
Group J — St. Charles Room B Presiding—Mrs. Romaine Roethel	Finance

4-5 p.m.

National Junior Divisional Caucuses
Central—Bonnie Burn Room (4th Floor)
Eastern—Crescent Room (4th Floor)
Northwestern—Edgewood Room (4th Floor)
Southern—Bayside Room B (4th Floor)
Western—Bayside Room A (4th Floor)

7-9 p.m.

National Junior Meeting Opening
Bayside Rooms A & B (4th Floor)

Get-Acquainted Reception (immediately
following Junior Meeting recess)—
Aurora Room (4th Floor)

National President Candidate's Reception

7-9 p.m.—Pontchartrain Ballroom A & B

National Officers Candidates' Reception

7-9 p.m.—Pontchartrain Ballroom C & D

Sunday, August 25, 1985

Divisional Caucuses

7:30-9:30 a.m.

Central Division—Pontchartrain Ballroom A
Eastern Division—Pontchartrain Ballroom D
Northwestern Division—St. Charles Room A & B
Southern Division—Pontchartrain Ballroom C
Western Division—Pontchartrain Ballroom B

8:30 a.m.-5:30 p.m.

National Junior Meeting, Bayside Room B

Patriotic Memorial Service

11 a.m.-12 noon

Hyatt Regency Ballroom D & E (3rd Floor)

Opening Meeting—65th National Convention

1:30-4 p.m.

The Sheraton Grand Ballroom

Call to Order

Miss Eleanor Gremillion
National Convention Chairman

Opening Processional

Invocation

Pledge of Allegiance

Mrs. Alice Galka
National Americanism Chairman

National Anthem

Preamble to the Constitution

Mrs. Syble Deshotel
National Constitution & Bylaws Chairman

Welcome

Mrs. Helen Gardner
National President

"What the United States Means to the World"

Mr. Dolf Droge

Introductions and Greetings

The American Legion

Mr. Merrick W. Swords, Jr. *President*
1985 First District Convention
Corporation of Louisiana

Mr. Clarence M. Bacon
National Commander

Mr. Robert Spanogle
National Adjutant

Honorary National Junior President

Mayor of New Orleans

American Legion Auxiliary

Miss Sonya Goodman

The Honorable Ernest N. Morial
Mayor of New Orleans

Mrs. Rose Hebert, President
Department of Louisiana

Miss Eleanor Gremillion
National Convention Chairman

Introduction of National Officers

Mrs. Josie Melgard
National Vice President

Division National Vice Presidents

Mrs. Pat Wolverton, *Central*
Mrs. Katherine Foley, *Eastern*
Mrs. Thelma Foster, *Northwestern*
Miss Elizabeth Stewart, *Southern*
Mrs. Betty Sampson, *Western*

Mrs. Levelma Simmons, *National Chaplain*

Mrs. Del Bunnell, *National Historian*

Mrs. Peggy Sappenfield, *National Treasurer*

Mrs. Miriam Junge, *National Secretary*

Greetings From National Officers

Mrs. Josie Melgard
National Vice President

Introductions and Greetings of the
Past National Presidents

Mrs. Anna Gear
Junior Past National President

Introduction of National President's Pages

Mrs. Olga Terrell, *National Chairman of Pages*

Mrs. Connie Brown, *National Vice Chairman of Pages*

Mrs. Kitty McDowell, *Personal Page*

Mrs. Jan Croft, *Personal Page*

Mrs. May Fincham, *Personal Page*

Mrs. Mary Ellen Anderson, *Personal Page*

Recess — 4 p.m.

National Convention Parade

5-9 p.m.

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

Monday, August 26, 1985

Convention Meeting

8:30 a.m.

Call to Order

Mrs. Helen Gardner
National President

Invocation

Report of Convention Committees

Credentials

Permanent Organization

Rules

Mrs. Vivian Stratton
Mrs. Gaynell Andersen
Mrs. Winnie Wellman

Nomination of National Officers 1985-1986

Reports of National Officers

National Chaplain

National Historian

National Secretary

National Treasurer

Mrs. Levelma Simmons
Mrs. Del Bunnell
Mrs. Miriam Junge
Mrs. Peggy Sappenfield

First Reading of Proposed Amendments to the Constitution & Bylaws

National Committee Reports

Americanism
National Security
Foreign Relations
Community Service
Membership

Mrs. Alice Galka, *Chairman*
Mrs. Margaret Yankovich, *Chairman*
Mrs. Pearl Behrend, *Chairman*
Mrs. Ruby Paul, *Chairman*
Mrs. Rita George, *Chairman*

Presentation of 1984-1985 Department Presidents

Recess — 11:30 a.m.

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

Convention Meeting

1:30 p.m.

Call to Order

Mrs. Helen Gardner
National President

Greetings of Representatives of Other Organizations

"Role of Education in National Security"

Dr. William J. Bennett
Secretary of Education

Memorial Service

Recess — 3 p.m.

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

Head Table Reception

6:30-7:15 p.m.

Bayside Rooms A & B

States Dinner

7:30 p.m.

The Sheraton Grand Ballroom

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

Tuesday, August 27, 1985

Convention Meeting

8:30 a.m.

Call to Order

Mrs. Helen Gardner
National President

Invocation

Election of National Officers 1985-1986

Report of the National President

National Committee Reports

Children and Youth
Liaison with Child Welfare Foundation
Education
Junior Activities
Girls State

Mrs. Betty Bohn, *Chairman*
Mrs. Lotys Schanel, *Chairman*
Mrs. Adelene Smith, *Chairman*
Mrs. Kay Mokler, *Chairman*
Mrs. Helen Holcomb, *Chairman*

Introduction of Convention Committees

Recess — 11:30 a.m.

Past Department President's Luncheon
11:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m.
Pontchartrain Ballroom

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

Convention Meeting
1:30 p.m.

Call to Order

Mrs. Helen Gardner
National President

Public Relations

National Committee Reports
Mrs. Marg Dorn, *Chairman*

Golden Mike and Golden Press Awards

National Committee Reports

Constitution and Bylaws
Finance
Leadership
Veterans Affairs and Rehabilitation
Poppy
Legislative
Past Presidents Parley
Auxiliary Emergency Fund

Mrs. Syble Deshotel, *Chairman*
Mrs. Romaine Roethel, *Chairman*
Mrs. Margaret Mackey, *Chairman*
Mrs. Evelyn Starr, *Chairman*
Mrs. Veronica Spence, *Chairman*
Mrs. Betty Calder, *Chairman*
Mrs. Anna Gear, *Chairman*
Mrs. Donna Light, *Chairman*

Report of Resolutions Committee

Mrs. Odette Cuccaro, *Chairman*
Mrs. Margaret Elliott, *Vice Chairman*
Mrs. Ardelle Owen, *Secretary*

Retirement of Department Colors

Recess — 4:45 p.m.

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

Wednesday, August 28, 1985
Convention Meeting
8:30 a.m.

Call to Order

Mrs. Helen Gardner
National President

Installation of National Officers 1985-1986

Presentation of Colors to Retiring National President

Presentation of Pin and Ribbon to Retiring National President

"Perspectives on U.S. National Security"
The Honorable Caspar W. Weinberger, Secretary of Defense

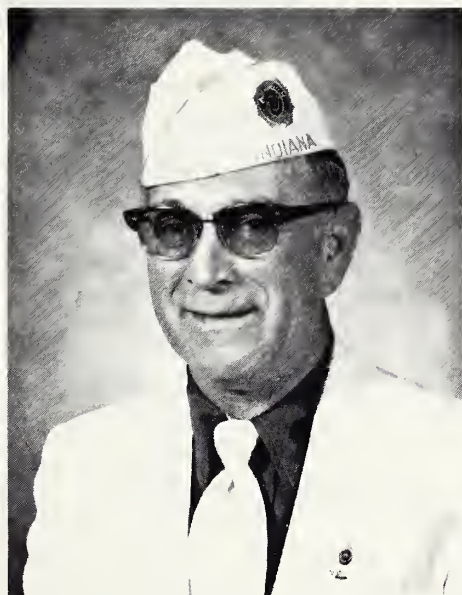
Retirement of National Colors

Adjournment of the National Convention

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

Post-Convention National Executive Committee Meeting
(Immediately Following Convention Adjournment)
State Room

THANKS



YOUR BLOOD SAVED MY LIFE

BE AN

AMERICAN LEGION BLOOD DONOR



For further information write
National Security Division
1608 K Street NW
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20006



TAKE A BITE OUT OF
CRIME

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CRIME RESISTANCE PROGRAM
IN YOUR COMMUNITY



For further information write:
National Security-Foreign Relations Division
1608 K Street NW
Washington D.C. 20006



***“Our
legions
legend.”***

“From the halls of Montezuma to the shores of Tripoli,” the Marines are legend. Men with a common cause—freedom. Men with a common bond—pride. A force to be reckoned with. That’s what makes a Marine a Marine. And what makes us a legend among men.



Marines
We’re looking for a few good men.

Salon National La Boutique Des Huit Chapeaux Et Quarante Femmes 64th Annual La Marche Nationale



Mrs. Joseph Mardu
Le Chapeau National

Hotel Sheraton
New Orleans, LA
August 28, 29, 30, 1985

Official Program National Officers



Mrs. James C. Malone
La Secretaire-Caissiere Nationale

Registration

Saturday, August 24, 1985—Headquarters Suite	4:00 P.M. to 6:00 P.M.
Monday, August 26, 1985—Headquarters Suite	12 noon to 2:00 P.M.
	4:00 P.M. to 6:00 P.M.
Tuesday, August 27, 1985—Headquarters Suite	12 noon to 2:00 P.M.
	4:00 P.M. to 6:00 P.M.
Wednesday, August 28, 1985—Headquarters Suite	12:30 P.M. to 1:30 P.M.
On Thursday, the 29th and Friday the 30th at the entrance to the meeting hall prior to the opening of the sessions.	
<i>Guest Registration will also be accepted during these hours.</i>	

Wednesday, August 28, 1985

Pre-Marche Pouvoir	Ponchartrain Ballroom, Sec. B	4:30 P.M. to 5:30 P.M.
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Pre-Marche Committee Meetings

Ponchartrain Room, Sec. B		
Permanent Organization—Chairman, Mrs. La Vera Hudspeth		2:00 P.M. to 2:30 P.M.
Children & Youth—Chairman, Mrs. Jean Hayes		2:30 P.M. to 4:00 P.M.
NJH Liaison, Chairman, Mrs. Jacobe B. Foreman		
American Legion Child Welfare Foundation Chairman Mrs. Kathleen Robinson		
Ponchartrain Room, Sec. C		
Credentials—Chairman, Mrs. Michael Matey		2:00 P.M. to 2:30 P.M.
Resolutions—Chairman, Mrs. Donna Baley		2:30 P.M. to 3:00 P.M.
Constitution & Bylaws—Chairman, Mrs. Michael Suvak		3:00 P.M. to 4:00 P.M.
Ponchartrain Room, Sec. D		
Rituals & Emblems—Chairman, Miss Julia V. Mullan		2:00 P.M. to 2:30 P.M.
Rules & Order—Chairman, Mrs. Nettie Murphy		2:30 P.M. to 3:00 P.M.
Handbook Review—Chairman, Mrs. James W. Collins		3:00 P.M. to 4:00 P.M.
St. Charles Room, Sec. A		
Publicity—Chairman, Mrs. Harry Stephens		2:00 P.M. to 2:45 P.M.
L'Aumonier—Mrs. Arthur Patterson		2:45 P.M. to 3:15 P.M.
L'Archiviste—Mrs. Albert Ybarra		3:15 P.M. to 4:00 P.M.
St. Charles Room, Sec. B		
Nurses Scholarship—Chairman, Mrs. Camille Erazmus		2:00 P.M. to 2:45 P.M.
Trophies & Awards—Chairman, Mrs. Frank Sellers		2:45 P.M. to 3:15 P.M.
Partnership—Chairman, Mrs. Walter Bonham		3:15 P.M. to 4:00 P.M.

Display and Emblem Sales Headquarters Suite

Emblem Sales will be open in the Headquarters Suite beginning Monday, August 26, 1985, through Thursday, August 29, 1985, from 12 noon to 2 P.M. and from 4:00 P.M. to 6:00 P.M. Order forms will be placed in every convention packet for convenience in ordering. All items listed will not be available for sale at La Marche, however, those wishing to order items not available, to be shipped to them after La Marche, may do so and same will be shipped no charge. Those orders must be paid in full at La Marche. For inventory control purposes all orders must be accompanied by completed order form. Forms will also be available at emblem display. Partners must show current 1985 partnership cards to purchase items.

Rehearsal Les Marchals and Pages

Ponchartrain Room, Sec. A. August 28, 1985 6:00 P.M.

La Concierge Nationale Mrs. Edith Still, Chairman of Pages Mrs. Jacqueline LaRochelle, Distinguished Guest Chairman Mrs. Treva Reimink will hold rehearsal for ALL PAGES, Les Marchals and Distinguished Guest Committee.

Meet the Candidates Reception

Wednesday, August 28, 1985 Grand Ballroom 7:30 P.M. to 9:00 P.M.

Thursday, August 29, 1985

Divisional Caucuses—7:00 A.M.

Central Division . Ponchartrain Ballroom, Sec. C.	Northwestern Division .. St. Charles Room, Sec. B
Eastern Division .. Ponchartrain Ballroom, Sec. D	Western Division St. Charles Room, Sec. A
Southern Division . Ponchartrain Ballroom, Sec. B	

La Marche Nationale

Ponchartrain Ballroom, Section A

Opening Session Thursday, August 29, 1985 9:00 A.M.

La Marche Chairman Presiding. Mrs. Hazel Landry

Presentation of Chapeaux Nationaux

Passes escorted by La Marche Pages

Mrs. Freda Kehm	Mrs. Elsie Voit
Mrs. Edna Davol	Miss Dorothy M. Dolle
Mrs. Hazel Davix	Mrs. Hazel Landry
Mrs. Lilia Edwards	Mrs. Ann Suvak
Mrs. Harriet Stratton	Mrs. Lella Hunt
Mrs. Frances Keefe	Mrs. Lois Lansdale
Mrs. Jeannette Michelet	Mrs. Marie Smith
Mrs. Laura McKinley	Miss Julia V. Mullan
Mrs. Theresa Kelly	Mrs. Maxine Martin
Mrs. Elsie Gleason	Mrs. Violet Aichholz
Mrs. Virginia DeForce	Mrs. Mary Russell
Mrs. Darlene Collins	Mrs. Eunice Staley
Mrs. Treva Reimink	Mrs. Elyline Schweitzer

Presentation of National Officers escorted
by La Marche Pages

Hat Box Editor Mrs. Blanche Mack
L'Avocate Nationale Mrs. Frances Keefe
La Concierge Nationale Mrs. Edith Still
L'Archiviste Nationale Mrs. Mildred Ybarra
L'Aumonier National Mrs. Kitty Patterson
La Secretaire-Caissiere Nationale Mrs. May Malone

Les Divisional Demi Chapeaux

Mrs. Margaret Hansen Eastern Division
Mrs. Dorothy Brady Central Division
Mrs. Mae Wilson Southern Division
Mrs. Roberta Sando Northwestern Division

Mrs. Ofelia Soza Western Division

Le Demi Chapeau National Mrs. Kathleen
Robinson

Le Chapeau National Mrs. Helene S. Mardu
escorted by husband Mr. Joseph Mardu preceded
by Departemental de Connecticut Colors—Les
Marchals Mrs. Mary Gulya-Hindsley
Mrs. Bernice Bergeron

Call to Order Mrs. Helene S. Mardu
Le Chapeau National

Presentation of Pages and Les Marchals

Le Marchal, Mary LeDuc, Connecticut
Le Marchal, Mary Goldsmith, Kansas

Pages

Jacqueline La Rochelle, Chairman ... Massachusetts
Stella Lucas, Vice Chairman Connecticut
Ezel Free, Alabama

Violet Bohot, Oklahoma

Eleanor Schuele, Nebraska

Gloria Glasscock, Oregon

Devona Moran, Michigan

Cheryl Bossenmeyer, Louisiana

Catherine Johnson, Virginia

Mille Harrold, Washington

Gladys Gifford, South Dakota

Dorothy Vess, Indiana

Marianne Kuper, Missouri

Linda Edmundson, Ohio

Andrea Mandt, New Jersey

Ruth Unitas, Connecticut
Le Chapeau National Personal Pages Lila Walker
 and Muriel Pinto
 Honorary Personal Pages Mary Marzucca
 and Ethel Marsh
La Secretaire-Caissiere Nationale
Personal Page Mrs. Carrie Brotherton
Presentation of National Colors .. Mrs. Edith Still
 La Concierge Nationale
 Les Marchals
Invocation Mrs. Kitty Patterson
 L'Aumonier Nationale
The National Athem Mrs. Muriel Grover
 and Delegation
 La Musiciene Miss Stella Eddy
Flanders Field Mrs. Margaret Hansen
 Le Eastern Division Demi Chapeau National
America's Answer Mrs. Mae Wilson
 Le Southern Division Demi Chapeau National
Special Flag Presentation Connecticut
 Mrs. Natalie Yasensky and Team
Pledge of Allegiance to the
Flag of our Country Mrs. Edith Still
 La Concierge Nationale
America, The Beautiful La Musiciene
 Miss Stella Eddy
Roll Call Mrs. May Malone
 La Secretaire-Caissiere Nationale
Reading of Call to 1985 Marche Nationale
Report of 1984 Marche
Nationale Mrs. Maxine Martin
 Mrs. Violet Aichholz
 Mrs. Blanche Mack
Presentation and
Greetings Mrs. Treva Reimink
 Distinguished Guest Chairman
 Escorted by Chapeaux Nationaux Passes—
 Mr. Clarence Bacon, *National Commander*, The
 American Legion
 Mrs. Helen Gardner, *National President*, The
 American Legion Auxiliary
 Mrs. Josie Melgard, *National Vice President*, The
 American Legion Auxiliary
 Mrs. Miriam Junge, *National Secretary*, The
 American Legion Auxiliary

Mr. Robert Spanogle, *National Adjutant*, The
 American Legion
 Mrs. Margaret Sappenfield, *National Treasurer*,
 The American Legion Auxiliary
 Mrs. Betty Bohn, *National Children & Youth*
Chairman, The American Legion Auxiliary
 Mrs. Hazel Landry, *Chairman*, 1985 La Marche
 Nationale
 Miss Eleanor Gremillion, *National Convention*
Chairman, The American Legion Auxiliary
 The Honorable Edwin Edwards, *Governor State of*
Louisiana
 The Honorable Ernest A. Morial, *Mayor of the City*
of New Orleans
 Mr. Roy Kirkham, *Commander*, Department of
Louisiana, The American Legion
 Mrs. Rose Herbert, *President*, Department of
Louisiana, The American Legion Auxiliary
 Mrs. Cheryl Bossenmeyer, *Le Chapeau*
Departmental de Louisiana
 Mr. Merrick Swords, *President of 1985 National*
Convention Corp.

Response Mrs. Kathleen Robinson
 Le Demi Chapeau National
Speaking for the Chapeaux Nationaux
Passes Mrs. Elyline Schweitzer
 Immediate Chapeau National Passe

Report of Special Marche Committees
 Rules and Order Mrs. Nettie Murphy,
Chairman
 Permanent
 Organization Mrs. LaVera Hudspeth,
Chairman

National Committee Reports
 Advisory Mrs. Maxine Martin, *Chairman*
 Constitution & Bylaws Mrs. Ann Suvak,
Chairman
 Ritual and Emblems Miss Julia V. Mullan,
Chairman
 Handbook Mrs. Darlene Collins,
Chairman
 Finance Mrs. Violet Aichholz, *Chairman*

Nomination of National Officers for
1985-1986

Recess 12:00 Noon

Second Session of La Marche Nationale Thursday, August 29, 1985 — 1:30 P.M.

Processional of Les Divisional Demi Chapeaux Nationaux and Les Chapeaux Departementaux
Presentation of La Marche Committee Mrs. Hazel Landry, *Chairman*
Response Mrs. Dorothy Brady
Presentation of Les Chapeaux Departementaux by Les Divisional Demi Chapeaux Nationaux
National Committee Reports
 Children and Youth Mrs. Jean Hayes, *Chairman*
 The American Legion Child Welfare Foundation Mrs. Kathleen Robinson, *Chairman*
 National Jewish Hospital Liaison Mrs. Pearl Foreman, *Chairman*
 Guest Speaker Mr. Jerry Colness, Vice President Public Affairs
 National Jewish Center for Immunology and Respiratory Medicine
Response Mrs. Ofelia Soza

Nurses Scholarship	Mrs. Camille Erasmus, <i>Chairman</i>
Partnership	Mrs. Pauline Bonham, <i>Chairman</i>
National Officers Reports	
Le Chapeau National	Mrs. Helene S. Mardu
Le Demi Chapeau National	Mrs. Kathleen Robinson
La Secretaire-Caissiere Nationale	Mrs. May Malone
L'Avocate Nationale	Mrs. Frances Keefe
L'Archiviste Nationale	Mrs. Mildred Ybarra
La Concierge Nationale	Mrs. Edith Still
The Hat Box Editor	Mrs. Blanche Mack
Trophies and Awards	Mrs. Sara Ann Sellers, <i>Chairman</i>

Recess

Third Session of La Marche Nationale Friday, August 30, 1985 — 9:00 A.M.

In Memoriam	L'Aumonier Nationale Mrs. Kitty Patterson Presiding
Prelude	La Musiciene Miss Stella Eddy
Processional	Le Chapeau National
	Les Chapeaux Nationaux Passes
	Le Demi Chapeau National
	Les Divisional Demi Chapeaux Nationaux
Solo—"How Great Thou Art"	Mrs. May Fincham
Prayer	L'Aumonier Nationale Mrs. Kitty Patterson
Tribute to Deceased Partners	Le Chapeau National Mrs. Helene Mardu
Eulogy in Memory of Mrs. Margaret Delles, Le Chapeau National Passe	Mrs. Frances Keefe
	Le Chapeau National Passe
Tribute to Deceased Partners Entering Eternal Rest 1984-1985 by Les Divisional Demi Chapeaux Nationaux	
Eastern Division	Mrs. Margaret Hansen
Central Division	Mrs. Dorothy Brady
Northwestern Division	Mrs. Roberta Sando
Southern Division	Mrs. Mae Wilson
Western Division	Mrs. Ofelia Soza
Benediction	L'Aumonier Nationale Mrs. Kitty Patterson
Response	All Partners in Unison
Solo—"In the Garden"	Mrs. May Fincham
Recessional—The Lord's Prayer	All Partners
Report of L'Aumonier Nationale	Mrs. Kitty Patterson
National Committee Reports	
Publicity	Mrs. Colleen Stephens, <i>Chairman</i>
Photo Book	Mrs. Geraldine Grant, <i>Chairman</i>
Memory Book	Mrs. Marjorie Kliarsky, <i>Chairman</i>
Report of Special Marche Committees	
Credentials	Mrs. Helen Matey, <i>Chairman</i>
Resolutions	Mrs. Donna Baley, <i>Chairman</i>
Election of National Officers for 1985-1986	
Ratification of Elections of Les Divisional Demi Chapeaux Nationaux	
Report of Judge of Elections	Mrs. Violet Montgomery
Unfinished Business	
Response to Delegates	Mrs. Roberta Sando
	Le Northwestern Demi Chapeau
Presentation of Newly Elected Officers for 1985-1986	

Recess

Post Marche Pouvoir

Immediate following close of morning session in	Section A	2:30 P.M.
Ponchartrain Ballroom, Section A		Mrs. May Malone, La Secretaire-
School of Instructions		Caissiere Nationale presiding
Ponchartrain Ballroom,		

The Sons of The American Legion



Woodrow Mudge
National Commander



David Bourland, Jr.
National Adjutant

Agenda 14th Annual National Convention New Orleans, LA

National Vice Commander	..... J. Alan Davis (NJ)
National Vice Commander	..... Larry Aichele (FL)
National Vice Commander	..... Robert A. Worrell (IN)
National Vice Commander	..... Jon G. Jelinek (WY)
National Vice Commander	..... Charles Edwards (CA)
National Assistant Adjutants	..... Richard McKenry (GA)
	..... Thomas Timcoe (MA)
National Chaplain	..... Thomas D. O'Brien (FL)
National Historian	..... Douglas P. Bible (MN)
National Judge Advocate	..... J.R. Stillwell (IL)
National Sergeant-at-Arms	..... Christopher M. Alderman (MI)
National Commander's Aide	..... Bowen Smith (CO)

Past National Commanders

1968	..... Michael Seaton (CA)
1969	..... Robert McBride (OH)
1970	..... J. R. Stillwell (IL)
1971	..... J. R. Stillwell (IL)
1972	..... John Smolinsky (MA)
1973	..... Robert Faust (CA)
1974	..... James Hartman (MD)
1975	..... Gregory Reis (IL)
1976	..... Grant Jamieson (MI)
1977	..... Charles Gannon (MD)
1978	..... John M. Sherrard (CA)
1979	..... Richard Kepler (TN)
1980	..... Ernest Wilson (NJ)
1981	..... Donald Willson (PA)
1982	..... David P. Stephens (IN)
1983	..... Christopher R. Cerullo (NY)
1984	..... Fred Hartline (OH)

Sessions: All sessions, including those of the National Executive Committee, will be conducted in the Mardi Gras Room, Section D, 3rd Floor, New Orleans Marriott Hotel.

Registration: National Convention Delegate and Alternate registration will be conducted in the Mardi Gras Room, Section D, 3rd Floor, New Orleans Marriott Hotel.

Friday, August 23, 1985

1:00 p.m. **Registration** of National Convention Delegates and alternates begins.

7:00 p.m. **N.E.C. Meeting** (Pre-Convention Meeting)
Call to Order—Woody Mudge (CO), National Commander

Hand Salute to Colors

Pledge of Allegiance

Invocation—Thomas D. O'Brien (FL), National Chaplain

Preamble to the Constitution of The Sons of The American Legion

Roll Call—D. David Bourland (TX), National Adjutant

Other Opening Business

Reports of National Officers

Reports of National Committees:

Children & Youth

Commander's Advisory

Commander's Project

Committee to Investigate a Paid Employee

Convention Committee

Membership Committee

SAL Color Guard

SALutations

Reports of National Commissions:

Americanism

Community Affairs

Finance

Internal Affairs

Legislative

Public Relations
 Rehabilitation
Unfinished Business
New Business
Good of the S.A.L.
Benediction—Thomas D. O'Brien (FL),
 National Chaplain
Adjournment—Woody Mudge (CO),
 National Commander

Saturday, August 24, 1985

8:00 a.m. Delegate and Alternate Registration opens

9:00 a.m. **14th Annual National Convention**

Call to Order—Woody Mudge (CO),
 National Commander

Salute to the Colors

Pledge of Allegiance

Invocation—Thomas D. O'Brien (FL),
 National Chaplain

Preamble to the Constitution of The Sons
 of The American Legion

Roll Call—D. David Bourland (TX),
 National Adjutant

Reading of Convention Call—D. David
 Bourland (TX), National Adjutant

Opening Remarks—Woody Mudge
 (CO), National Commander

Establishment of Convention Committees

Report of Credentials Committee

Report of Legislative & Rules Committee

Section 1, Rules Report

Salute to the Colors

Recess

1:00 p.m. **Call to Order**—Woody Mudge (CO),
 National Commander

Salute to the Colors

Roll Call—D. David Bourland (TX),
 National Adjutant

(Note: During the Convention session,
 various addresses will be delivered)

Reports of National Officers

J. Alan Davis, National Vice Commander

Larry Aichele, National Vice
 Commander

Robert A. Worrell, National Vice
 Commander

Jon G. Jelinek, National Vice
 Commander

Charles Edwards, National Vice
 Commander

**Reports of National Convention
 Committees**

Credentials—Preliminary Report

Americanism

Constitutional Amendments

Finance

Internal Affairs

Legislative and Rules—Section II

Legislative

Membership

Rehabilitation

**Presentation of National History Contest
 Awards**—Douglas P. Bible (MN), National
 Historian

Report of Credentials Committee—Final
 Report for 1st Session

Salute to the Colors

Area Caucuses

6:00 p.m. **Past Detachment Commanders' Dinner**

Sunday, August 25, 1985

8:00 a.m. Registration Opens

9:00 a.m. Registration Closes

Call to Order—Woody Mudge (CO),
 National Commander

Salute to the Colors

Pledge of Allegiance

Invocation—Thomas D. O'Brien (FL),
 National Chaplain

Roll Call—D. David Bourland (TX),
 National Adjutant

National Convention Memorial Service—
 Conducted by Thomas D. O'Brien (FL)

Report of Credentials Committee—Final
 Report

Presentations to National Commander

Unfinished Business

New Business

For the Good of The S.A.L.

Special Order of Business—Election of
 National Officers

—National Commander

—National Vice Commanders (5)

—National Chaplain

Installation of Newly Elected National
 Officers

Benediction

Retirement of Colors

Final Adjournment—Woody Mudge (CO),
 (Outgoing National Commander)

N.E.C. Meeting—Post-Convention
 Meeting (following conclusion of National
 Convention)

Call to Order—Newly Elected National
 Commander

Salute to the Colors

Invocation—Newly Elected National
 Chaplain

Roll Call—National Adjutant

**Confirmation of Appointed National
 Officers**—National Commander nominates
 and N.E.C. approves. Appointment of
 Special NEC Committees

New Business

Unfinished Business

Benediction—Newly Elected National
 Chaplain

Adjournment—Newly Elected National
 Commander

5:00 p.m. **Parade** (I Division, immediately following
 The American Legion Youth Award
 Winners)

PRIDE—IT'S THE MEDAL YOU WEAR INSIDE

You feel it inside. When you're standing trim and fit, feeling good and looking good in your uniform.

When the flag goes by, and you get a lump in your throat.

When you're instructed to do something that, six weeks ago, you'd swear you couldn't. But you just did.

It's learning one of the Army's more than 300 skills. Knowing you're good.

It's earning a good salary. With food, housing, medical and dental bills paid for. So you can save something for the future.

It's a place to take pride in yourself. And your country. You start with an Army Recruiter.



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Post Commander John Haas of American Legion Post 258, Greenacres Florida presents the American Legion Silver Medal for Military Excellence to Cadet Captain Emily Hiden, an Air Force Junior ROTC student at Lake Worth Community High School, Lake Worth, Florida.

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Beacon Award Department Commanders

Pictured on these pages are the Commanders who led their respective Departments to an increase for 1985 by exceeding their 1984 Total Membership by the May 1, 1985 Target Date. In recognition of this outstanding achievement, National Commander Clarence M. Bacon presented each with a special "Beacon Award" Plaque during the National Executive Committee meeting in May. Commanders are pictured in the order in which their Department recorded the increase.



*Larry Little
Nevada*



*Rheuben M. Hair, Sr.
Florida*



*Stan C. Stueve
Oregon*



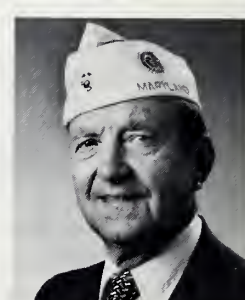
*James C. Chapin
Wisconsin*



*Richard H. Mibach
California*



*Kay Compton
Arizona*



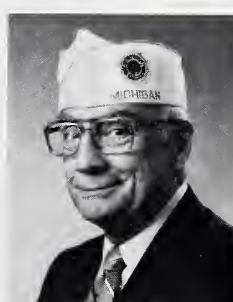
*Earl C. Nuttall
Maryland*



*Orval Wright
Utah*



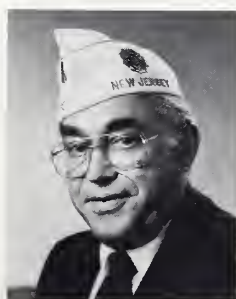
*Howard Jessen
Washington*



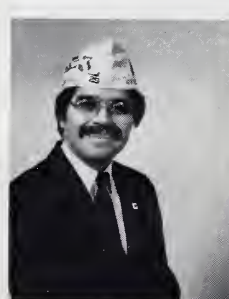
*Donald K. Harris
Michigan*



*Everett McConnell
Colorado*



*John E. Hein
New Jersey*



*Santiago R. Hidalgo
New Mexico*



*Paul H. Drake
Ohio*



*Harvey W. Hall
North Carolina*



*L.G. Smith
Pennsylvania*



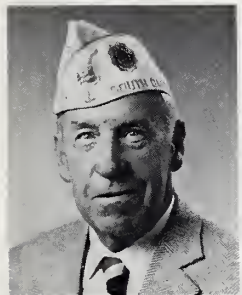
*Seth A. Slocum
Missouri*



*Roy Kirkham
Louisiana*



*Vincent E. Blank
Iowa*



*S.J. LeClaire
South Carolina*



*John D. Morris
Texas*



*Richard R. Wright
Indiana*



*Donald F. Klein
New York*

The American Legion and the Veterans Affairs and Rehabilitation Division

To some in The American Legion, Veterans Affairs and Rehabilitation is the bread and butter of the organization. This is evidenced by many basic veterans' benefits and entitlements that have been legislatively proposed and supported through the years. Presently, The American Legion is again facing a considerable challenge to veterans programs by the current Administration in an effort to reduce the federal deficit. This monetary belt tightening is best illustrated by the proposed reduction in funding for the Veterans Administration.

Hardest hit are those veterans programs that so many have relied on for so many years, especially medical care in VA medical centers. This has had a negative impact on patient care and in some instances resulted in the discontinuance of certain programs.

Another concern is the Administration's proposal to limit or deny nonservice-connected veterans access to medical treatment. This is referred to as the means test, and, if approved, it would seriously affect nonservice-connected veterans' access to medical care if their income exceeds a certain level.

In other matters, the Legion is strongly opposing the Administration's plan to consolidate the current 59 VA regional offices into three regional centers. It is The American Legion's conviction that this consolidation would deny veterans needed personal contact with the VA and the service organizations, when processing their claims.

A systematic reduction of VA middle management personnel in GS grades 11-15 is also seriously affecting professional staffing in VA medical centers. In an attempt to overturn this situation, the Legion has petitioned Congress to exempt those GS 11-15 positions involved in direct patient care from the reduction initiative, so as to minimize the impact on medical treatment.

The Administration's fiscal restraints will also have a negative impact on new construction projects within the Department of Medicine and Surgery that are badly needed. The DM & S construction budget is \$154.9 million less than allocated for FY 1985. Physical plant deterioration will continue and medical care will be compromised if this situation is allowed to go on unchecked. The American Legion has requested additional funding for medical construction.

In addition, the Administration has proposed third party reimbursement, which would authorize VA to, where applicable, bill health insurance carriers for the costs of care provided to nonservice-connected veterans. Presently, most health insurance policies exclude benefit payments for care provided in VA hospitals. This development would, if approved, change the VA medical system from a benefit program, supported by the American people, to a cost sharing program. Should that happen, the Legion would be hard pressed to defend the present VA system from an effort to consolidate it with Medicare and Medicaid.

Finally, The American Legion is committed to defend all present veterans programs from any threat, compromise or consolidation with social welfare programs administered by the Department of Health and Human Services. The American Legion believes that all present veterans programs are needed, justified and supported by the American people in gratitude of and support for those who have defended the national interest in the nation's Armed Forces.

AMERICA'S SCHOOLS: THE SUBJECT IS EXCELLENCE

**American Education Week
November 17-23, 1985**

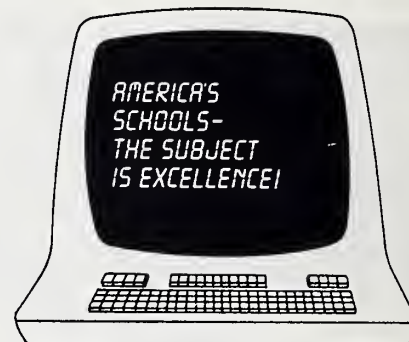
THE AMERICAN LEGION

One of the concerned sponsors
of American Education Week

American Education Week materials for 1985, produced by the National Americanism Division, have been made available to your Department Adjutant. This year's material consists of a revised brochure. A camera ready "ad slick" will be printed in ALNS several times this fall.

**AMERICAN
EDUCATION
WEEK**

November 17-23



AMERICAN EDUCATION WEEK BROCHURE CONTAINS SUGGESTIONS FOR:

Organization
Activities
Promotions

News Release
Proclamation
Media Spots

The American Legion
stands committed to
America's Schools
Where the Subject
Is Excellence

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**NAVY.
IT'S NOT JUST A JOB,
IT'S AN ADVENTURE.**

The American Legion Salutes Outstanding Students at Military Academies, 1985



At the U.S. Military Academy, Cadet Russell P. LaChance received The American Legion Award for outstanding achievement in chemistry. The award was presented by National Vice Commander Robert S. Turner of Georgia.



National Vice Commander Ronald D. Birk of Kansas, presents The American Legion Award to Cadet Kevin P. Crawley of Largo, FL, for excellence in athletics at the Coast Guard Academy.



As the graduating cadet who ranked the highest scholastically at the Air Force Academy, Robert A. Kaucic, Jr., of Newark, DE, receives The American Legion's General Muir S. Fairchild award, presented by National Vice Commander Harold E. Collett of Idaho.



Graduating Midshipman Eric Wayne Olson of Orofino, ID, who stood highest at the Naval Academy in political science courses with emphasis on international relations, receives The American Legion Award from National Vice Commander Stewart R. Kunde of Minnesota.



These Americans took time off their jobs to serve their country.

Washington, Lincoln, Teddy Roosevelt. Citizen soldiers are more than just a part of our country's history. They are our country's history. For over three centuries they've been leaving their homes and jobs to defend America.

They still do today. They're the members of the Guard and Reserve. Their readiness is vital to our defense.

Be fair to them when their time comes to go on duty. Don't penalize them when promotions and raises are due. Our country's future still depends upon our citizen soldiers. They depend upon you. To find out how you can support today's Guard and Reserve write Employer Support, Arlington, VA 22209. Or call 800-336-4590.

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Lincoln (Illinois Militia). 12. MSgt. Ronald Smith (Army Reserve). 13. Senator Barry Goldwater (Air Force Reserve). 14. Sgt. Mary Y. Corral (Air National Guard). 15. Senator John Warner (Naval Reserve). 16. Theodore Roosevelt (U.S. Volunteer Regiment). 17. Jack Lord (Naval Reserve). 18. Ed McMahon (Marine Corps Reserve). 19. Gov. Charles Robb (Marine Corps Reserve). 20. Russell Schweickart (Air National Guard).

Jackson, Lincoln, Washington, Courtesy of: National Gallery of Art, Washington, D.C. Truman, Lindbergh, Roosevelt, Courtesy of: National Portrait Gallery, Smithsonian Institution, Washington, D.C.

In Appreciation

Parade Grand Marshal



*Maj. Gen. David B. Barker, USMC
CG, 4th MarDiv, New Orleans*

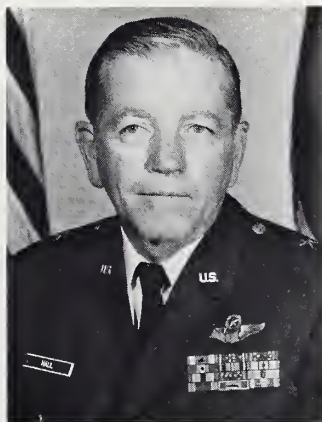
Parade Deputy Grand Marshals



*B.Gen. Thomas A. Sands
USA*



*R.Adm. T.H. Etheridge
USNR*



*B.Gen. Richard Hall
USAF*



*R.Adm. Clyde Lusk, Jr.
USCG*

The American Legion First District Convention Corporation of Louisiana and The American Legion expresses thanks and appreciation to Major General David B. Barker, Grand Marshal, the Parade Deputy

Grand Marshals, the DOD Coordinator and the Projector Officers for their cooperation and contributions towards the success of the 67th Annual National Convention of The American Legion.

[illegible]

Disbanding Area:
Tchoupitoulas Street from
Canal Street to Poydras

Parade Order

The American Legion National Convention Parade

Sunday, August 25, 1985
5:00 P.M.

Grand Marshal

Major General David B. Barker, USMC
Commanding General
4th Marine Division (Rein)
Fleet Marine Force
USMCR, New Orleans, Louisiana

Honorary Grand Marshal

Keith Kreul
R.R. #2, Box 21
Fennimore, Wisconsin

Deputy Grand Marshals

Brigadier General Thomas Allen Sands
Commanding General
US Army Engineers Division
Lower Mississippi Valley
Vicksburg, Mississippi

Brigadier General Richard L. Hall
Commander
403 Rescue & Weather Reconnaissance Wing (AFRES)
Kessler Air Force Base, Mississippi

Rear Admiral T.H. Etheridge USNR
Commander Naval Reserve Readiness
Naval Support Activity
New Orleans, Louisiana

Rear Admiral Clyde T. Lusk, Jr.
Commander
Eighth Coast Guard District
New Orleans, Louisiana

Department of Defense Coordinator

Captain Claude L. Fare, USN
Commanding Officer
Naval Support Activity
New Orleans, Louisiana

Parade Chairman

Henry M. Morris
336-38th Street
New Orleans, Louisiana

Parade Order

The official parade of the 67th National Convention of The American Legion will be governed by instructions contained herein, together with the Organization and March Timetable and Assembly and Disbanding Area Map, which are made a part hereof.

1. Time: (All times in these orders are Central Daylight Time.)

- (A) The leading element of the parade will move from the "Initial Point", (corner of Canal Street and Galvez) promptly at 5:00 P.M., Sunday, August 25, 1985, regardless of weather.
- (B) The time and place of assembly for each Department or element of the Parade will be shown in detail on the Organization and March Timetable, a copy of which has been sent to each Department Parade Chairman. **A meeting of all Department Parade Chairmen will be held at 1:00 p.m., Saturday, August 24, 1985, in Regency Ballroom D of the Hyatt Regency Hotel.**
- (C) A Parade Official will direct Departments and elements of the parade to their assigned assembly area. He will advise all bus drivers of the route to follow to the disbanding area.
- (D) Because of the nature of the assembly area, accurate logistics are essential. **Promptness in arrival at the assembly area is mandatory.**

2. Route: Southeast along Canal Street from South Galvez to South Peters Street.

3. Assembly Area: (See Map on Page 76)

- (A) **Assembly Area #1**—South side of Canal Street from South Galvez to Dorgenois
Assembly Area #2—South Galvez from Canal Street to Banks Street
Assembly Area #3—North Galvez from Canal Street to Lafitte Street
- (B) Additional instructions for each Department will be furnished by the Parade Committee at the meeting of the Department Parade Chairmen on Saturday, August 24.
- (C) Float assembly area will be announced.

4. Organization

- (A) All elements have been assigned to Divisions, each under the direction of the Parade Officials. The composition of these divisions, order of march and time and place of assembly is shown on the Organization and March Timetable and Assembly and Disbanding Area map supplied to the Department Parade Chairman.
- (B) All Department of Defense Units will be governed by applicable regulations.
- (C) Each Department Commander or appointed parade representative will be responsible for the order of march and promptness of arrival at the assembly area of all units of his Department. All units will conform to the following distribution and formation:
 - (1) **Massed Colors: Eight (8) abreast**
 All American Flags, the Department and Post Colors of each Department and the Department and Unit Colors of each Department of the Auxiliary will be massed at the head of each Department Delegation in that order.
 - (2) American Legion units within Departments will march in formation eight (8) abreast, one and one-half yards between ranks.
 - (3) **Bands And Drum Corps:** As directed by Drum Majors, but not to exceed eight (8) abreast.
 - (4) Authorized floats and automobiles in single column. No unauthorized floats or automobiles will be allowed to participate. **All vehicles participating in the parade must be equipped with identifying signs on sides thereof, and must also carry an "OFFICIAL CAR" sticker on the windshield.**
 - (5) **Absolutely NO Maneuvers Except for a Forward Movement.** Marching units, bands, contesting Color Guards and Drill Teams must abide by this regulation.
- (D) **Distances:**
 - (1) Between Divisions 30 yards
 - (2) Between Departments 20 yards
 - (3) Between elements of a Department 10 yards

5. Disbanding Area:

The Disbanding Area is on Tchoupitoulas Street from Canal Street to Poydras.

6. Official Reviewing Stand:

The official reviewing stand will be located on the south side of Canal Street at Elk Place.
 Elements will render a salute to the National Commander while passing the reviewing stand (eyes right).

7. Eligibility to Participate in the Parade and Conduct of Participants

- (A) Pursuant to a resolution adopted at a meeting of the National Convention Commission at Miami Beach on March 12, 1960, there will be no participation of any vehicles, equipment or items of wearing apparel of the 40 et 8. This regulation will be enforced by the Parade Committee of the 1985 Convention Corporation.
- (B) With exception of police, military and naval escort, and distinguished guests, eligibility to participate in the parade is limited to the members of The American Legion and the uniformed bodies of The American Legion Auxiliary, subject to restriction of the following activities which shall be prohibited in the line of march:
 - (1) The drinking of or simulated drinking of intoxicants.
 - (2) Participants under the influence of intoxicants.
 - (3) Use of water pistols and electric shocking devices.
 - (4) Female impersonators.
 - (5) Firecrackers and any other explosives.
 - (6) Any presentation or representation either immoral or in bad taste.
 - (7) Distribution of souvenirs, promotional or advertising material, either from floats or by marching units.
- (C) Violators of any of the above rules will be dismissed from the parade immediately.

8. First Aid Stations:

First Aid Stations will be established in the assembly area, at intervals along the line of march and at the disbanding area.

9. Parking of Chartered or Post Buses:

After unloading at the assigned assembly area, buses will proceed to the assigned disbanding area. Parade Officials will direct marchers to their parked bus or buses. **(Personal Belongings and All Equipment Must Be Removed From the Buses When Unloading at the Assembly Area.)**

March Order

Escort Division—

Assemble at Area #I—Assemble at 4:30 p.m.

Departure at 5:00 P.M.

- A. Escort—New Orleans Police Motorcycle Squad
- B. Grand Marshal
- C. Honorary Grand Marshal
- D. Deputy Grand Marshals
- E. DOD Coordinator
- F. United States Marines
 - 1. 4th Marine Aircraft Wing Band
 - 2. 4th Marine Division Marching Platoon
 - 3. 4th Marine Division Color Guard
 - 4. 4th Marine Division Aircraft Wing Marching Platoon
- G. United States Navy
 - 1. Navy Band New Orleans Ceremonial Band
 - 2. Naval Support Activity Volunteer Color Guard
 - 3. "MGS APOLLO" Aircraft Carrier Float
- H. United States Coast Guard
 - 1. Color Guard

I Division—Assemble at Area #I — Assemble at 4:30 p.m.

- 1. American Legion Kansas City District 5 Band, Kansas City, MO.
- 2. National Colors and 1984 National Championship Color Guard—Highlanders Color Guard, Louisville, Kentucky
- 3. National Commander, The American Legion
- 4. National Officers, The American Legion
- 5. Aurora American Legion Band
- 6. National President, The American Legion Auxiliary
- 7. National Secretary, The American Legion Auxiliary
- 8. Past National Commanders
- 9. Society of The American Legion Founders
- 10. T.H. Harris Jr. High School Red Raiders Band
- 11. The American Legion Youth Awards Winners
- 12. Sons of The American Legion
- 13. The American National Red Cross
- 14. Foreign and Outlying Departments
 - Puerto Rico
 - Canada
 - Mexico
 - France
 - Panama Canal
 - Italy
 - Republic of the Philippines
- 15. Nevada

II Division—Assemble at Area #3—Assemble at 4:45 p.m.

- 16. Florida
- 17. Arizona
- 18. California
- 19. Oregon
- 20. Utah
- 21. New Mexico
- 22. Oconomowoc American Legion Band
- 23. Wisconsin

III Division—Assemble at Area #2—Assemble at 5:00 p.m.

- 24. Alaska
- 25. Maryland
- 26. Michigan
- 27. Fort Cralo American Legion Post #471 Band

28. South Carolina

29. Colorado

30. Vermont

31. New Jersey

IV Division—Assemble at Area #1—Assemble at 5:15 p.m.

- 32. East Jefferson High School Warrior Band
- 33. Ohio
- 34. Pennsylvania
- 35. Texas
- 36. Washington
- 37. Idaho
- 38. American Legion Kansas City District 5 Band
- 39. Missouri
- 40. Minnesota

V Division—Assemble at Area #2—Assemble at 5:30 p.m.

- 41. New Hampshire American Legion Post #4 Band
- 42. New Hampshire
- 43. Maine
- 44. Steven Sikora American Legion Post #1322 Band
- 45. New York
- 46. Indiana
- 47. Nebraska
- 48. North Carolina
- 49. Joliet American Legion Band
- 50. Illinois

VI Division—Assemble at Area #3—Assemble at 5:45 p.m.

- 51. South Dakota
- 52. Iowa
- 53. Jesuit High School Blue Jay Band
- 54. West Virginia
- 55. Virginia
- 56. Rhode Island
- 57. Montana
- 58. Massachusetts

VII Division—Assemble at Area #2—Assemble at 6:00 p.m.

- 59. Connecticut
- 60. Hawaii
- 61. Booker T. Washington High School Band
- 62. Wyoming
- 63. Mississippi
- 64. Kentucky
- 65. Kansas
- 66. University of Arkansas at Monticello Band
- 67. Arkansas

VIII Division—Assemble at Area #3—Assemble at 6:15 p.m.

- 68. Delaware
- 69. North Dakota State Legion Band
- 70. North Dakota
- 71. Alabama
- 72. Georgia
- 73. Tennessee
- 74. District of Columbia
- 75. 4 Mule Team & Covered Wagon
- 76. Oklahoma

IX Division—Assemble at Area #1—Assemble at 6:30 p.m.

- 77. Gretna Post #64 Band
- 78. Louisiana

Annual Report

Covers Period Ending June 1, 1985

THE FINAL PAGES of this official program of the 67th Annual National Convention of The American Legion contain a condensed annual report for the American Legion 1984 year. A complete, detailed report has been prepared for submission to the Congress of the United States in accordance with requirements of the Legion's Congressionally-granted charter.

Believing that the delegates to the National Convention are entitled to receive a concise statement of the major activities of the American Legion year ending with this National Convention, your national headquarters provides this illustrated report as a part of the official program. In this manner, we are assured that every delegate and every one who registers for the convention will receive the condensed annual report.

The American Legion 67th Annual Report

A full, detailed report has been submitted to the Congress of the United States in accordance with the provisions of Public Law 249, 77th Congress. Approved September 18, 1941

SINCE ITS FOUNDING, The American Legion has been able, as a grassroots organization, to respond quickly and with sustained effort to issues which are crucial to America. This year has been one in which The American Legion, under the firm leadership of National Commander Clarence M. Bacon, has been on the leading edge of marshalling public opinion.

Early in the Legion year it became apparent that government efforts to trim the federal deficit and to bring the budget into line with tightly-funded programs would affect every walk of American society.

Commander Bacon personally led the Legion effort to heighten public awareness of the way various proposed budget cuts would affect such diverse areas as national security, foreign relations and veterans affairs.

He brought The American Legion's message before both houses of Congress in testimony before the House and Senate Veterans Affairs Committees. In his official visits with Legionnaires throughout America he stressed the importance of maintaining open communication with elected officials at all levels.

Commander Bacon visited the Far East to evaluate America's relationships with her allies on the Pacific Rim, and he was brought up to date on the continuing government-to-government efforts to fully account for all POW/MIAs in Southeast Asia.


This Legion year also saw the closing of another chapter for the Vietnam veteran, when a statue was installed at the Vietnam Veterans Memorial in Washington, D.C., and the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Fund officially turned over the site to the care of the National Park Service.

There were other observances as well, with veterans of World War II commemorating the end of that great conflict 40 years ago both in Europe and in the Pacific.

Perhaps one of the most significant events this year has been the growth in membership. Newly designed goals and an effort by the National Organization to reach every potential member has brought gratifying response from veterans who wanted to join The American Legion, but had not been asked.

As you read through the pages of this book, you will see that this year has been one of increased strength, invigorating leadership and significant accomplishment by The American Legion.

Now that we are entering another Legion year, this nation and its veterans can remain assured that The American Legion will stay on the scene, inspired with new vitality, and ready to tackle any challenge to America and her future.



ROBERT W. SPANOGLA
NATIONAL ADJUTANT

The National Executive Committee

Between National Conventions, the administrative authority of The American Legion is exercised by the National Executive Committee composed of the National Commander, the five National Vice Commanders, National Chaplain, and one committeeman (plus alternate) elected by each department. Past National Commanders are life members of the NEC without vote. The NEC appoints the National Adjutant, Treasurer, Judge Advocate, Chaplain, Historian and Sergeant-at-Arms. The NEC also has full and complete control over the annual budget.

National Executive Committeemen

Alabama	<i>Andrew J. Cooper</i>	Missouri	<i>William F. Liddle</i>
Alaska	<i>Robert G. Blair</i>	Montana	<i>David Shannon</i>
Arizona	<i>Charles L. Vawter, Jr.</i>	Nebraska	<i>Wayne Davis</i>
Arkansas	<i>Lawrence E. Fisher</i>	Nevada	<i>Charles F. Langel</i>
California	<i>Don A. Drumheller</i>	New Hampshire	<i>M. Ray Olmstead</i>
Canada	<i>J. Archie Corriveau</i>	New Jersey	<i>Warren R. Davies</i>
Colorado	<i>Charles P. Smith</i>	New Mexico	<i>Robert W. Durand</i>
Connecticut	<i>Henry S. Bialoglowy</i>	New York	<i>John J. Harris</i>
Delaware	<i>John K. Simons</i>	North Carolina	<i>Robert A. Tart</i>
District of Columbia	<i>Richard Billig</i>	North Dakota	<i>Robert E. Hennessey</i>
Florida	<i>A. L. Ulchar</i>	Ohio	<i>Thomas L. Gabel</i>
France	<i>William S. Lombardo</i>	Oklahoma	<i>Tom C. Smith</i>
Georgia	<i>W. D. Harrell</i>	Oregon	<i>T. Les Galloway</i>
Hawaii	<i>Kenneth McAtee</i>	Panama Canal	<i>Ricardo R. Machado</i>
Idaho	<i>Conrad Chisholm</i>	Pennsylvania	<i>Dominic D. DiFrancesco</i>
Illinois	<i>Charles Kinkade</i>	Phillippines	<i>Eligio Tionamba</i>
Indiana	<i>Gilbert E. Sheeks</i>	Puerto Rico	<i>Luis A. Andujar</i>
Iowa	<i>Mark J. Studer</i>	Rhode Island	<i>Raymond S. Sanchas</i>
Italy	<i>Frank C. Bottigliero</i>	South Carolina	<i>E. Roy Stone, Jr.</i>
Kansas	<i>U. S. "Udie" Grant</i>	South Dakota	<i>Donald Clarke</i>
Kentucky	<i>Norbert H. Gadlage</i>	Tennessee	<i>John J. Maddux, Jr.</i>
Louisiana	<i>Carroll B. Fields</i>	Texas	<i>Harvey Holcomb</i>
Maine	<i>Anthony G. Jordan</i>	Utah	<i>William E. Christoffersen</i>
Maryland	<i>Robert W. Neal</i>	Vermont	<i>John Morrissey</i>
Massachusetts	<i>John P. Comer</i>	Virginia	<i>Emmett B. Burley</i>
Mexico	<i>Harry Wright</i>	Washington	<i>W. H. (Bill) Dunn</i>
Michigan	<i>Vernon L. Henrichs</i>	West Virginia	<i>Jack T. Gribben</i>
Minnesota	<i>Donald R. Schroedl</i>	Wisconsin	<i>Ted N. Mallow</i>
Mississippi	<i>Fred M. Ingellis</i>	Wyoming	<i>Frank M. Shaffer</i>

Past National Commanders

<i>Hamilton Fish</i>	New York	<i>J. Milton Patrick</i>	Oklahoma
<i>George N. Craig</i>	Indiana	<i>Alfred P. Chamie</i>	California
<i>Erle Cocke, Jr.</i>	Georgia	<i>John H. Geiger</i>	Illinois
<i>J. Addington Wagner</i>	Michigan	<i>Joe L. Matthews</i>	Texas
<i>W. C. Daniel</i>	Virginia	<i>Robert E. L. Eaton</i>	Maryland
<i>John S. Gleason, Jr.</i>	Illinois	<i>James M. Wagon seller</i>	Ohio
<i>Preston J. Moore</i>	Oklahoma	<i>Harry G. Wiles</i>	Kansas
<i>Martin B. McKneally</i>	New York	<i>William J. Rogers</i>	Maine
<i>William R. Burke</i>	California	<i>Robert Charles Smith</i>	Louisiana
<i>Charles L. Bacon</i>	Missouri	<i>John M. (Jack) Carey</i>	Michigan
<i>Daniel F. Foley</i>	Minnesota	<i>Frank I. Hamilton</i>	Indiana
<i>Donald E. Johnson</i>	Iowa	<i>Michael J. Kogutek</i>	New York
<i>L. Eldon James</i>	Virginia	<i>Jack W. Flynt</i>	Texas
<i>John E. Davis</i>	North Dakota	<i>Al Keller, Jr.</i>	Illinois
<i>William E. Galbraith</i>	Nebraska	<i>Keith Kreul</i>	Wisconsin
<i>William C. Doyle</i>	New Jersey		

National Officers



*Clarence M. Bacon (MD)
National Commander*



*Robert W. Spanogle (MI)
National Adjutant*



*Ronald D. Birk (KS)
Nat. Vice Commander*



*Harold E. Collett (ID)
Nat. Vice Commander*



*Stewart R. Kunde (MN)
Nat. Vice Commander*



*Robert S. Turner (SC)
Nat. Vice Commander*



*Stephen J. Mikosky (PA)
Nat. Vice Commander*



*Rev. Charles Rice, Jr. (NY)
National Chaplain*



*Philip B. Onderdonk, Jr. (MD)
National Judge Advocate*



*Webber LaGrange (IN)
National Treasurer*



*Roy R. Mahoney (FL)
National Historian*



*Charles A. St Clair (MD)
National Sergeant-At-Arms*

WHEN NATIONAL COMMANDER Clarence M. Bacon gavels the 67th National Convention to order in New Orleans, The American Legion once again will set to the work of adopting resolutions which will guide the organization through the coming year.

Founded as a service group in the days following the end of World War I, The American Legion has dedicated itself to service to God and Country for 66 years. In that time, The American Legion has helped all generations of 20th Century war veterans, their families and their communities.

With this vast cross section of Americans, The American Legion has constantly been a leader in volunteer efforts and provided an accurate barometer of attitudes and opinions at the grassroots level of America.

Totally dedicated to the highest ideals which prompted the founding of this nation, The American Legion consistently has achieved significant accomplishments through its legislative action, volunteer service and well-thought-out plans for the

future of America.

In order for The American Legion to accomplish its objectives, two offices are maintained. National Headquarters is in Indianapolis, IN. Major national offices also are located in Washington, D.C.

The organization's chief executive officer is the National Commander, elected by delegates to the National Convention for a term of one year. Other national officers chosen by National Convention action are the five National Vice Commanders.

Clarence M. Bacon, of Hyattsville, MD, is the 1984-1985 National Commander of The American Legion. Major accomplishments of The American Legion during his term of office are presented in the following pages of this program and condensed annual report.

Robert W. Spanogle of Michigan, the National Adjutant, is the chief administrative officer of The American Legion. The National Adjutant, the National Judge Advocate, the National Treasurer, The National Chaplain, The National Historian and the National Sergeant-at-Arms comprise the appointed National officers of The American Legion.

National Commander Bacon Shows How The American Legion 'Gets Involved!'



National Commander Clarence M. Bacon introduces his wife, Helen, to convention delegates after his election Sept. 5, 1984, in Salt Lake City.



Rep. James C. Wright, Jr. (D-Tex.) was the recipient of the National Commander's Distinguished Public Service Award during The American Legion's 25th Annual Washington Conference. American Legion Auxiliary National President Helen Adams Gardner joins National Commander Bacon in expressing congratulations.



Surrounded by supportive Legionnaires from across America, newly elected National Commander Clarence M. Bacon addresses convention delegates Sept. 5, 1984.



The Department of Arizona greets National Commander Clarence M. Bacon with a massed Color Guard during his official visit.



National Commander Clarence M. Bacon introduced President and Mrs. Ronald Reagan to more than 1,000 guests attending the Veterans Inaugural Ball in Washington, D.C.



National Commander Clarence M. Bacon greets Secretary of Defense Caspar Weinberger, 1985 winner of The American Legion's highest award, the Distinguished Service Medal.



National Commander Bacon personally delivered a portfolio of current American Legion resolutions to Secretary of State George M. Schultz during one of the Commander's many visits with top-ranking officials in Washington, D.C.



National Commander Bacon made it a point to visit as many Veterans Administration Medical Care facilities as possible during his extensive travels.



Throughout his year National Commander Clarence M. Bacon was sought by national news media to express American Legion views on a number of current issues. Here he is interviewed by a reporter for the Cable-Satellite Public Affairs Network during festivities surrounding President Reagan's second inauguration.



Sinclair Melner, vice president of the prestigious Hudson Institute, was an honored guest and keynote speaker at the National Commander's Banquet honoring the National Executive Committee in Indianapolis October 14, 1984.

Americanism Commission

Dale L. Renaud (IA), Chairman
K. Michael Ayers (IN), Director



Dale L. Renaud

POST-LEVEL, community-oriented programs are the lifeblood of The American Legion. Where we find strong, vibrant, Legion-sponsored programs for America's youth, we find energetic and flourishing Legion posts. Thousands of posts and hundreds of thousands of volunteers conduct programs of Youth Activities that promote

good citizenship, healthy minds and strong bodies. It is your National Americanism Commission that has the responsibility for development and promotion of these activities, but it is the post that carries the programs to the community, and it is at the post level that the name of The American Legion shines brightest.

Included in this report are summations of major programs of the National Americanism Commission, programs for which you share responsibility and of which you can be justly proud. American Legion Baseball, Boys State, Boys Nation, the National High School Oratorical Contest and the concern for and support of the American Education System are just a few programs that continue to provide visibility and a very positive image for the Legion both locally and nationally.

The Americanism Commission continues to devote great attention to matters of Federal legislation that affect the lives of all Americans. Current mandates of the Organization that are paramount to the interests of the Commission continues to be in the areas of effective intelligence agencies; with problems created by Illegal Aliens and the present immigration laws; with acts of terrorism; the return to prayer in the classroom and with the restoration of patriotic holidays to their proper, traditional dates.

Within the realm of responsibility for the Commission is the supervision and coordination of two National Standing Committees—the National Committee on Education and the Counter-Subversive Activities Committee.

Boys State/Boys Nation

As a program of The American Legion, Boys State



The highlight of the weeklong activities, the pinnacle of Boys Nation, is a visit to the White House and a greeting to all the young Senators from the President of the United States.

developed from the concept that youth should be offered a better perspective of the practical operation of government; that the individual is an integral part and commensurately responsible for the character and success of his government. As such, it is an activity of high educational value, born out of a need for youth and training in practical citizenship.

Boys State is easily classified as a Leadership Action Program where qualified male high school juniors take part in a practical government course designed to develop in the young citizens a working knowledge of the structure of government and to impress upon them the fact that government is just what **THEY** make it.

More than 28,000 young men participated in the program in 1985, and added their names to the role of more than one million who have attended American Legion Boys State since the inception of the program in 1935. This year marks the Golden Anniversary of the program that began under the auspices of The American Legion in the Department of Illinois. From its very humble beginnings, with 235 boys attending the first Boys State—housed in cattle barns at the Illinois State Fairgrounds in Springfield—to the present, The American Legion has sponsored Boys State in the belief that young citizens who are familiar with the operation of our form of government will be better prepared to uphold its ideals.

Boys Nation is a graduate school of citizenship training at the national level. Every year, each Boys State selects two outstanding graduates to represent them at American Legion Boys Nation.

Oratorical

The Forty-Eighth Annual National High School Oratorical Finals were conducted on April 19, 1985, at Drake University in Des Moines, Iowa. Fifty-two

Departments of The American Legion participated in the Oratorical Program. The four National Finalists were:

First Place—Gwen G. Connolly, Cedarburg, Wisconsin; \$16,000 Scholarship

Second Place—Anne-Marie Deitering, Aurora, Oregon; \$14,000 Scholarship

Third Place—Christopher P. Jordan, Smithfield, North Carolina; \$10,000 Scholarship

Fourth Place—Brian F. Domitrovic, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania; \$8,000 Scholarship

The American Legion Life Insurance Trust Fund also awards a \$1,000 scholarship to each Regional Contest participant and an additional \$1,000 scholarship to Sectional contestants who do not advance to the National Finals, for an annual total of \$109,000. To date, over \$1,000,000 in scholarship awards has been provided from The American Legion Life Insurance Trust Fund. Additionally, scholarships are awarded at the Post, District and Department levels.

In 1986, the National Oratorical Contest Finals will be held in Tuscaloosa, Alabama.

Scouting USA

The American Legion's interest and support of scouting is illustrated by the selection of Peter J. Kaboli, a 17-year-old senior from Donnellson, Iowa, as The American Legion's 1985 Scout of the Year. He was sponsored by Gillaspey-Moodie Post No. 474 of Donnellson.

An \$8,000 scholarship, payable in increments of \$2,000 annually, is provided to the Scout of the Year by The American Life Insurance Trust Fund.

Baseball

American Legion Baseball is culminating its 60th Anniversary season of nationwide competition as this Convention convenes. Eight Regional Champions representing nearly 4,000 teams filled by American

Legion Posts and sponsors are assembling at Kokomo, Indiana for the 1985 World Series August 29-September 2.

More than half of all Major League Baseball players this season gained training and experience in The Legion program before they signed their first professional contract. More and more participants are realizing college educations as a result of scholarships granted to them following exposure in the athletic activity first sponsored by The American Legion in 1925.

Flag Education

The National Americanism Commission continues its program of Flag Education through our publications "Know Your America" and "Let's Be Right on Flag Etiquette." The American Legion, a recognized authority on Flag Etiquette for over sixty years, has attempted to provide all citizens the necessary information and knowledge to properly and appropriately display the Flag of the United States. The office of the National Americanism Commission annually answers innumerable and varied inquiries regarding proper respect for our Flag and continues to promote Flag Education programs for elementary school students. In cooperation with the Public Relations Division, a new and updated slide presentation has been developed to further promote proper Flag etiquette.

Education Activities

The activities of the Education Program are many and varied. The National Americanism Commission, through its National Committee on Education, continues to emphasize citizenship education as the foundation of the program. This past year, a new awareness was given to the problem of Adult Illiteracy. Posts are encouraged to assist existing programs or begin new ones to help alleviate the problems of illiterate adults.

American Education Week, co-sponsored by The American Legion since 1921, will be observed November 17-23, 1985. The theme, "America's Schools: The Subject is Excellence", emphasizes the role The American Legion and the American Legion Auxiliary can and should play in promoting educational excellence in the public and private schools in the community. By encouraging courses for our young people designed to prepare them for the world of work and responsible citizenship, the country is strengthened and our future will be secured.

Continued participation in the National Convention of Secondary School Principals, Counselors and School Board members reaffirms that our financial source book, *NEED A LIFT?* is serving an important role for young people seeking funds to attend college. *NEED A LIFT?* and the brochure "A Guide for Parents and Students" are used as basic tools by counselors working with young people and parents in financial planning for higher education.



Stimulating competition throughout the country is enjoyed annually by thousands of participants in The American Legion Baseball program.

American Legion involvement in these and the programs of Career Education, School Awards, local Scholarships and Essay Contests are more thoroughly explained in the education handbook, PACT (Post, Auxiliary, Community Together), available through your Department Headquarters or from the National Americanism Commission.

Service to God and Country

"Service to God and Country" is basic Americanism. This program is designed to help prevent the spiritual decay of America and to charge our citizens with a spirit of positive Americanism, respect for law, reverence for authority and an awareness of our human rights and freedoms.

The first of this dual objective is service to God through regular public worship, daily family prayer and the religious education of children. Legionnaires are called upon to make parents more aware of their responsibility to instill in their children the belief that God is the source of all rights and privileges.

The second objective is to inculcate a sense of individual obligation to the community, state and nation by preparing young Americans to take up tomorrow's responsibilities. It is achieved by teaching them moral and spiritual values, renewed interest in our country's history, self-discipline, self-reliance, thrift and ideals of loyalty, honesty and physical fitness.

The program is coordinated by the Post Chaplain through the cooperation of local clergy and other public service and civic organizations which hold with the principles of The American Legion's "Service to God and Country" program.

Get Out The Vote

The American Legion's initial concern regarding voting dealt only with our members; we knew, and we wanted our membership to know that their vote was important, for them, for their community, and for us all as a nation. In recent years, this concern spread to include all eligible voters. For quite some time, our efforts at the national level were directed only at the Presidential election; however, it became quite clear that an effort must be made to increase voter registration and turnout for all elections, to include those at the local and state level.

In 1985, more than 18,000 Get Out the Vote packets were distributed nationwide to posts and units of the Legion and Auxiliary. The packet contained ideas and suggestions for local committees to employ in an effort to register and have vote all those in the community that were eligible.

The National Americanism Commission urges all posts to continually work to increase voter turnout at the polls with the idea that good government is the direct result of citizens exercising their responsibility by casting their vote on election day.

Committee on Education

Dr. W. F. Haynie (TX), Chairman

Since its inception in 1919, The American Legion has continuously concerned itself with the promotion of positive educational activities. A Joint Committee was formed with the National Education Association which brought about the first American Education Week observance in 1921. This Committee met annually to discuss educational issues and plans for each succeeding American Education Week observance.

In 1975, the National Education Association dissolved all committees involved with outside organizations thus ending nearly 55 years of cooperative effort in establishing National emphasis and input to the Nation's educational system. For that reason, The American Legion formed the National Committee on Education in order to maintain a strong positive influence on education. As the only national committee with a voting membership of both the Legion and the American Legion Auxiliary, it exemplifies the cooperation needed by our organizations and so vital in providing programs and activities that will have a meaningful effect on the schools.

The National Committee on Education meets twice annually and make their recommendations through the Americanism Commission.

Counter-Subversive Activities Committee

F. Rodney Loper (PA), Chairman

The Counter-Subversive Activities Committee of the National Americanism Commission has had many concerns the past year including, a neo-Nazi gang known by the following names: Silent Brotherhood or Bruder Schweigen, The White American Bastion or The Order. The gang allegedly planned to use loot stolen from banks and armored cars to finance murders and terrorist attacks that would eventually lead to the violent overthrow of the United States Government. A decoded membership list of the organization and taped conversations between its recruiters and prospective members led to several arrests by the FBI. Several jailed members of The Order have made extensive statements concerning the identity of the so-called 'banker' for the group who reportedly stashed some of the stolen money on his property. Appearing before a congressional committee, FBI Director William Webster said that to date, The Order represents the most violent manifestation of the racist, anti-Semitic philosophy reflected in the Ku Klux Klan and the American Nazi Party. Webster said the FBI has arrested a total of 26 members and supporters to date and while 3 members remain at large, the FBI is claiming defeat of the neo-Nazis.

CIA recruiters, once targets of abuse and protest at colleges and universities across the nation have become popular on campuses according to career counselors. The welcome mat is out for intelligence agency recruiters who said they are attracting graduates similar to those who would be hired by major corporations. At a recent Career Day held at the University of Southern California, CIA representatives collected 55 resumes from students interested in a career with the CIA. A surge of patriotism in recent years is being credited with the up-swing in student interest.

Firing Line, the publication of the Counter-Subversive Activities Committee continues to be the vehicle in which news of subversive activities is reported. A special subscription drive held last Fall added many new subscribers in the Departments of Georgia, Kansas, Kentucky and New Hampshire. This Fall, another drive will get underway with four other Departments being targeted.

Children & Youth Commission

Eugene V. Lindquist (MN), Chairman
K. Michael Ayers (IN), Director



Eugene V. Lindquist

emotional, and spiritual well-being for our young people. Our National Commission on Children and Youth is dedicated to its purpose and takes great pride in the results of the vast efforts put forth by our thousands of volunteers in communities all across this great Land.

The commission does not limit its interest or assistance to a specific category of children. The continual aim is to insure that all children are given the opportunity to develop to their full potential. Since 1926, volunteers of The American Legion, Auxiliary and

THE DEDICATION and contributions of our membership to the youth of this Nation stand as a firm commitment to support our perennial theme, "A Square Deal for Every Child." During every decade, since the founding of The American Legion, major advancements have been made to establish programs that will secure physical,

Eight & Forty have given countless hours of time and just over 500 million dollars to help achieve this aim.

There are three basic principles involved in this commission's program development. They are:

1. Strengthen the family unit for today's society
2. Support sound organizations already providing services for children and youth
3. Maintain a well-rounded program for the needs of children and youth today

These three principles serve as a sturdy foundation for the development of programs that are directional and far-reaching in their scope. The guidance that is provided for these youths today will be instrumental in character development that will determine the direction of our future as they become the leaders of tomorrow.

The programs of this commission operate in two different ways. One set are annual activities. These are programs that have been established for many years and emphasized every year because of their importance. The other set are programs called Areas of Concern. Each year, at the Spring Meetings, the Commission chooses problem areas affecting our youth that it wants to emphasize on a National level. These areas are usually emphasized for a three-year period. It is a rotating system that affords The American Legion the opportunity to work with other non-profit organizations to benefit our youth. These areas are researched by the National staff and brochures and other materials are then developed to assist all levels of our organization for the implementation of these programs to their communities.

During the 1985 Spring meetings, your Children and Youth Commission met and decided to keep our current three areas for National emphasis. This was done because of continued need for community awareness and education in these three very tragic problems. These three areas are:

1. Missing Children
2. Drug Abuse
3. Teenage Suicide

Missing Children

This is a problem that is only now starting to receive the attention that it has needed for so long. Many think this situation has just started to become a problem, when in fact, it has been happening for many years. It just was never given any national exposure until recently. The annual statistics are staggering, and it is an exploitation that must be eliminated.

This program has really taken hold throughout our organization. The demand for our brochure and fingerprint/identification card has been continual. The fingerprinting programs have continued to grow, and not just in the United States; the Department of Canada has conducted a very successful fingerprinting program as well. While fingerprinting is important, it will not keep a child from being taken, but it can be an invaluable tool for identification. The

large key is prevention, and that means education. Not just for children, but parents and adult youth group leaders, as well. Children cannot just be told to be careful. The dangers of this situation must be explained to them. Tell them what they should do when confronted by other adults. Parents must not take their child's life for granted. Our youth face many dangerous situations during each routine day of their lives. The importance of stressing this type of safety to them cannot be over emphasized. Let's keep the faces of fugitives on wanted posters NOT children.

Drug Abuse

Drug abuse can start at any age and touch even the youngest of children. A great many youngsters will be introduced to illegal drugs when they are only 7 or 8 years old. This age is not too soon to be talking to them about the dangers involved with using drugs of any kind. Do not think because you are talking about drug problems, it's going to make them run out and try them. What better place is there to start preventative measures than in the home?

This is a problem that has plagued our society for many years. Obviously, it also is a direct contributor to the crime statistics. A person needs money to buy drugs, and they will usually always steal or worse to get the needed money. The education must begin in the home and at an early age. But if parents don't know about drugs, they can't teach their children. This is one way our organization can help. We have three excellent brochures on this topic. Let's use them to help improve community awareness. Adults don't need to be experts in all the different types of drugs being used. They do, however, need to have a general understanding of their dangers and a willingness to discuss them openly with their youngsters. Education and open discussion on this problem can make a difference.

Suicide Prevention

Teenage suicide is now a situation that has reached epidemic proportions. Statistics say that every hour, one teenager commits suicide and as many as 40 others make an attempt. They also say that since 1955, the suicide rate for young persons under 21 has tripled.

The pressures on today's teens are very heavy. Through circumstances many of them have no control over, they are asked or expected to act like adults long before they are ready to. This can cause an emotional tug-of-war for the youngster that can be too much for them to cope with. So they just give up with a feeling of being worthless.

Youngsters will most often give hints that they are contemplating suicide. Parents and adult leaders must learn and be on the lookout for these "warning signs" and not just pass them off as a "phase" that the youngster is going through. A combination of these warning signs should be taken deadly serious.

The National Commission has developed one of the

finest brochures in the Country on this topic. Get it into the hands of the people that can make good use of it.

Our Counterparts

The American Legion Auxiliary works the same Children & Youth program as we do. The Ladies of the Auxiliary and the Eight & Forty have provided invaluable assistance in volunteer hours and cash to efforts on behalf of Children & Youth.

They are instrumental in helping us to successfully reach our goals, and we want them to know how greatly we appreciate their efforts. Thank you very much, Ladies.

The National Commission on Children & Youth is dedicated to the needs of today's young people. With your support, we have in past, are now, and will in the future, be able to make a difference in the lives of these youngsters to insure they are able to have their day.

American Legion Child Welfare Foundation, Inc.

Walton D. Griffin (TN), President

Paul R. Frinsthal (IL), Executive Secretary

For the 1984-85 year, the following grants were issued: \$1,000 ... Find Me, Inc. (GA); \$2,800 ... Bayonne Economic Opportunity Foundation (NY); \$6,765 ... Illinois Council on Adoptable Children (IL); \$7,900 ... Cornelia de Lange Syndrome Foundation (CT); \$10,000 ... Southwest Community Health Centers of Columbus, Ohio (OH); \$11,000 ... Juvenile Diabetes Foundation International (NY); \$15,000 ... National Jewish Hospital/National Asthma Center (CO); \$18,000 ... National Crime Prevention Council (DC); \$40,000 ... American Legion Auxiliary (IN).

These outstanding projects sought to accomplish at least one of the following principles: (1) To contribute to the physical, mental, emotional and spiritual welfare of children and youth through the dissemination of knowledge about new and innovative organizations and/or their programs designed to benefit youth; and (2) To contribute to the physical, mental, emotional and spiritual welfare of children and youth through the dissemination of knowledge already possessed by well-established organizations, to the end that such information can be more adequately used by society.

Every year, the Foundation depends on the generosity of members from the Legion, Auxiliary, and the Eight and Forty. These contributions come in the form of memorials, bequests and regular donations. On a few rare occasions, we have received property, stocks, bonds, and other tangibles. All gifts, of course, are tax deductible. Additional income is acquired from the dividends we receive from long- and short-term investments.

On May 15, 1985, the Foundation's Board of Directors met in Indianapolis, Indiana, to consider 29 applications for grants which totaled \$752,729.20. These grant requests came from all parts of the country and represented many excellent programs for this nation's children. During this meeting, grants totaling \$258,550 were awarded to 14 voluntary, non-profit organizations who are actively engaged in helping our youngest generation.

We are grateful for the continued support of The American Legion, American Legion Auxiliary, and the Eight and Forty. The dedication of our combined membership in support of this Foundation has made possible the many excellent grants we have been privileged to award.

Internal Affairs Commission

Herman G. Harrington (NY), Chairman
Raymond C. Patterson (IA), Director



Herman G. Harrington

THE INTERNAL AFFAIRS Commission is responsible for policies relating to the internal structure and operation of The American Legion at all levels. In addition, all resolutions and other official matters not falling within the area of assigned duties of other national commissions or committees are handled by the Internal Affairs Commission.

Four national standing committees are assigned to the commission for "supervision and coordination:" Constitution and By-Laws; Membership and Post Activities; Resolutions Assignment; and Trophies, Awards and Ceremonials. The Internal Affairs Commission is also the supervisory body for the Sons of The American Legion organization.

Membership

A report of the Membership and Post Activities Committee will be found separately in this publication.

Constitution and By-Laws

The only authority that can amend the National Constitution and By-Laws is accomplished by action of a National Convention. A standing committee on

Constitution and By-Laws does, however, review and make recommendations on all proposed amendments.

Trophies, Awards and Ceremonials

This committee supervises all official national awards (with the exception of those related to uniformed group competition) and recommends to the National Executive Committee recipients of the Distinguished Service Medal, the International Amity Award and the Canadian Friendship Award.

At the 1985 Spring Meetings, the committee approved the nomination of Ernesto P. Golez, Philippines, for the International Amity Award.

Also, the committee approved nominations of: Hermon Mersereau, Eric Berntson, Jack K. Martin, Frank Jefferies, Wayne Ross Bradt, Henry Meekran and Any Innes for the Canadian Friendship Award.

The committee also submitted to the NEC and received approval for, two resolutions: (1) To establish the National Commander's Blood Donor Award and (2) To retire from competition the following trophies: Membership and Post Activities Trophy; Alvin M. Owsley National Trophy; Henry L. Stevens, Jr. Trophy; Hanford MacNider Trophy; John R. Quinn Trophy; and John C. Emery Trophy.

Resolutions Assignment

Meeting only once a year at the National Convention, the Resolutions Assignment Committee is responsible for assigning all resolutions to the appropriate convention committee for report to the convention.

The Sons of The American Legion

The National Executive Committee of The Sons of The American Legion met October 6, 1985 in Indianapolis, Indiana. The NEC approved two resolutions: (1) The establishment of a "Make-A-Wish" Committee to carry out the National Commander's Project, and (2) To change the format of the publication *SALutations* and transfer responsibility thereof to the Public Relations Committee.

Membership in the Sons of The American Legion has grown to 64,306 as of May 5, 1985. The program continues to thrive and grow with creation of new SAL Squadrons and Detachments during 1985.

Consolidated Post Reports

Last year 48 percent of The American Legion Posts filed a Consolidated Post Report with the National Headquarters. Those Posts reporting represented approximately 58 percent of our total membership in The American Legion. The effects of The American Legion at the local level are truly moving: \$915,229 contributed to Veteran Administration Volunteer Service (VAVS) programs, 957,053 hours were donated to VAVS programs, 328,197 pints of blood given, \$5,924,406 was the cost to support athletic teams, \$985,059 spent in scholarships, 2,614,004 hours given to community services and \$3,655,375 was the cost of the community service projects. The greatest strength The American Legion has is its service to veterans.

children and youth, and the local community.

Paid-Up-For-Life (PUFL)

Since the program's inception in 1975 over 33,000 Legionnaires have joined the ranks of the National Program. This is still the most convenient and for many affordable method available to pay your dues for life.

The American Legion Energy Program

The Energy Subcommittee, attached to the Internal Affairs Commission, is charged with the primary responsibility for resolutions concerning energy and/or the environment.

The energy policy of The American Legion, administered by the Subcommittee, is to stress the need for conservation and awareness of alternative sources being researched. Our role is also to monitor our national energy policy and possible consequences to national security.

Direct Renewal

One of the measures The American Legion uses to judge the success of the various programs is through the continuing strength of its membership. Instrumental to the retention of members in the organization is the Direct Renewal Program, which is the use of a direct mail method that invites members to renew. This organized, uniform, and simple method has been a very successful and effective approach and is funded at NO COST to Departments or Posts. Members of participating Posts receive a first renewal letter about August 1. Second, third, and fourth letters are mailed to unpaid members about November 1, February 1, and April 1, respectively.

An alternative to using the mail to renew members is to have responsible Legionnaires within the Post getting involved and personally contacting those who now belong.

Adding the personal contact to the mail effort produces a winning combination that spells success for The American Legion.

The American Legion Good Neighbor Award

The following Legionnaires were selected to receive the Good Neighbor Award for outstanding voluntarism in the respective categories:

Mr. James F. Walker (MN)—Work with Veterans

Served as a Post Service Officer for 31 years assisting veterans in need of assistance.

Mr. Ronald Rose (NY)—Community Service

He gives unselfishly of his time to help veterans, children, youth groups, and needy families...is always willing and eager to help without hesitation whenever called upon.

Mr. John Chvila (MI)—Heroism

Used selfless courage and quick action to save human life.

Mr. John H. Lloyd (MN)—Youth Activities

Has worked at all levels of the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 9, and has helped provide a learning opportunity to youth.

A dinner honoring the recipient will be held in the local community where a plaque and check made payable to his favorite charity will be presented.

National Leadership Workshops

The seventh annual series of National Leadership Workshops sponsored by the National Headquarters of The American Legion and Auxiliary in cooperation with all Departments will take place this September at eight regional sites around the United States. See the full page promotion elsewhere in this program for complete details on each workshop.

This forum of workshops is a setting to discuss matters of interest to the organization, but, more importantly, it offers the opportunity to inform, educate, and provide leadership training to anyone wanting to learn more about the past, present, and future of the Legion and Auxiliary. Many subject matters will be covered, providing a blend of experiences, sharing of ideas, problem solving, information exchange, and the sharpening of skills.

Become a part of the 25,000 other members who have attended past workshops. Be a Winner! Get Involved!

Direct Membership Solicitation

Research studies have shown that many veterans would consider joining The American Legion, but the have never been asked. In an attempt to reach as many of these veterans as possible, we are soliciting new members through the mail. This new and exciting membership program is called Direct Membership Solicitation (DMS).

DMS has proven successful, having acquired approximately 120,000 new members for the 1985 membership year in 37 participating Departments. Plans for 1986 include expansion into the remaining continental Departments.

DMS will support The American Legion's drive for 3,000,000 members through expanded mailing efforts and television support.

Family Benefit Plan

For business or pleasure, The American Legion takes great pride in announcing a variety of services and savings available to members only. Beginning January 1, 1985, a limited number of corporations are offering discounts on hotel lodging, motor club membership, car rentals, etc. At this time discounts/services are being offered by the following companies: Allstate Motor Club, Avis, Best Western, Greyhound Lines, La Quinta Motor Inns, National Car Rental, Ramada, Rodeway Inns, and Thrifty Rent-A-Car. These offers are valid only at participating locations, but can certainly come in handy when you travel...you need only call the special telephone numbers to see if the discounts will apply. In the

coming months, it is anticipated that other discounts will become available to Legionnaires. These benefits can help you and your family....now more reasons than ever to...GET INVOLVED!

Stop by the Membership booth at the Superdome and pick up details about the "new" Family Benefit Plan.

Membership and Post Activities Committee

Douglas W. Henley (MD), Chairman
James L. Adcox (NC), Director



Douglas W. Henley

THE 1985 MEMBERSHIP year has been one of continued implementation of innovative redirection within the organization. It is quite evident that our membership is becoming younger and more visible as our nation's leaders among veterans. Our enrollment of Vietnam Veterans is increasing and numerous special Vietnam Veteran

Posts have been established throughout the organization.

Membership Strength Soars

Total official membership, 19842,536,062
1984 membership as of June 1, 19842,483,164
1985 membership as of June 1, 19852,581,862

Eligibility Dates Remained Constant in 1984-85

There have been no changes in eligibility dates for membership since the 1979 National Convention in Houston, Texas where new dates were established for Vietnam Veterans (December 22, 1961 to May 7, 1975).

22nd Annual National Membership Workshop

Two National Membership Workshops were held this year in preparation for the 1986 membership year. The workshops were held at National Headquarters in Indianapolis-July 25, 26, and August 1-2. The goal of the National Membership Workshop was to achieve a greater participation by individual Legionnaires in examining the membership objective of The American

Legion. This exchange of ideas on a national scale continues to be one of the best methods of determining the future of The American Legion. Workshop participants left National Headquarters motivated and prepared to begin another successful membership year.

We are again looking forward to our eight National Leadership Workshops during which we will take our Membership Workshop to the field.

New Posts

Posts Chartered

5/31/84 to 5/31/85

No. of Posts as of 5/31/84	15,616
No. of Posts cancelled as of 5/31/85	110
No. of Posts chartered as of 5/31/85	60
Total No. of Posts as of 5/31/85	15,566

New Post formation in urban areas is one of the most difficult tasks confronting The American Legion. The Membership and Post Activities Committee developed a "Metropolitan New Post Marketing Plan." This plan has been proven successful and is now being implemented in several Departments. The premise of the plan is that any organization, no matter how great its programs or how large its membership, must continually adjust to the changes of the society it serves. The American Legion and its "Metropolitan New Post Marketing Plan" sets forth a procedure for organizing the core city and reorganizing once active Posts.

1986 Membership Campaign Promotion

During the annual planning session of the Membership and Post Activities Committee held in Indianapolis, January 17-18, 1985, the committee formulated the promotion plan for the 1986 National Membership Campaign. In excess of 65,000 various awards and incentives are incorporated in the National Membership Awards Program for 1986 to recognize outstanding membership accomplishments at all levels of the organization.

The M & PA staff has prepared a detailed Awards Manual for 1986 and promotional brochures describing Individual, Post, District and Department Awards that can be earned for membership performance.

National Theme for 1986

During the M & PA annual planning session, the committee adopted the national theme of "Get Involved! We're Winning!" as Posts, Districts and Departments begin their 1986 Membership Campaign.

It was the consensus of the committee that this is probably the most dynamic theme the committee has adopted in several years. The theme is a call for action in a positive effort and is directed at our own members, eligible non-members and the general public as well.

Several promotional items have been developed

around this new theme including posters, countertop displays, brochures, bumperstickers, decals, and buttons.

Unofficial Membership Awards

Early Bird Awards

Thirty-nine Departments qualified for Early Bird Awards by equalling or surpassing the assigned membership total by the September 5, 1984 Target Date. Awards were earned by: Alabama, Alaska, Arkansas, California, Colorado, Connecticut, Delaware, District of Columbia, Florida, Idaho, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota, Mississippi, Missouri, Montana, Nebraska, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New Mexico, North Carolina, Ohio, Oregon, Pennsylvania, South Carolina, South Dakota, Tennessee, Vermont, Virginia, West Virginia, Wisconsin, Wyoming.

Midway To Success

Awards were presented to Department Commanders and Department Membership Chairmen in each of five categories whose Department had the greatest percentage of 100% Posts for 1985, compared to the total number of Posts as of June 30, 1984. Membership was transmitted on or before October 8, 1984. Winners were: Category I—Wisconsin, Category II—Kansas, Category III—West Virginia, Category IV—New Mexico, Category V—Nevada.

Veterans Day Awards

Forty Departments qualified for Veterans Day Awards by surpassing the assigned membership total by the November 21, 1984 Target Date. Awards were earned by: Alaska, Arizona, Arkansas, California, Colorado, Connecticut, District of Columbia, Florida, Idaho, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Louisiana, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota, Mississippi, Missouri, Montana, Nebraska, Nevada, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New Mexico, North Carolina, North Dakota, Ohio, Oregon, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, South Carolina, South Dakota, Vermont, Virginia, West Virginia, Wisconsin, Wyoming.

Special Certificate of Most Distinguished Service

Special certificates were presented to 1,206 Posts who had re-enrolled by November 11, 1984 their entire previous year's membership, for 1985.

Big Ten Competition

Winning Departments for the 1985 Big Ten Competition are: Category I—Wisconsin and Florida; Category II—Maryland and Nebraska; Category III—

South Dakota and Virginia; Category IV—Vermont and Montana; Category V—Nevada and Delaware.

Individual Membership Workers' Awards

One thousand and sixty-eight Legionnaires who recruited ten (10) new members and/or reinstatements by Veterans Day, November 11, 1984 for the 1985 membership year received a special certificate from the National Commander and a chance to win one of five expense paid trips to the 1985 National Convention in New Orleans, Louisiana. The winners of the expense paid trip to the 1985 National Convention are: John Purdy, Florida; Kenneth J. Furnish, Florida; Howard Smith, Illinois; Clarence Dudley, Florida; Michael Millican, California.

Post Commander Achievement Award

One thousand-forty Post Commanders were awarded certificates for leading their Posts to a 1985 membership increase by November 11, 1984 by exceeding the Post's previous year's final membership. This also qualifies these Post Commanders for a chance to win one of five expense paid trips to the 1985 National Convention in New Orleans, Louisiana. The winners are: Douglas S. Smith, Post 1604, New York; Henry R. Stole, Post 23, Texas; Richard G. Denbow, Post 127, Iowa; Louis Alexander, Post 453, New Jersey; Don G. Gunderson, Post 124, Idaho.

Veterans Day District Commander Award

Fifty-one awards were presented to the District Commander in each Department that had the highest membership percentage for 1985 compared to the District's 1984 total membership, enrolled and transmitted to National Headquarters by the Veterans Day Target Date. The award consisted of a Veterans Day Award Certificate, a twenty-five dollar (\$25.00) gift certificate redeemable through National Emblem Sales, and a personal letter from the National Commander.

Post Membership Chairman All-Time High Distinguished Service Award

One-hundred-eighteen certificates were awarded to the Membership Chairmen of Posts who had by December 31, 1984, equalled or surpassed for 1985, the Post's previous All-Time-High membership.

Post Honor Ribbon

Post Honor Ribbons were shipped to 1,008 Posts whose 1985 membership as of December 31, 1984 equalled or exceeded their total 1984 membership.

Certificate of Meritorious Service

These Certificates were awarded to 486 Posts which

by December 31, 1984 had enrolled an advance membership for 1985 equalling or surpassing the Post's previous All-Time-High.

The American Legion Birthday Award-Post of Distinction

Five thousand six hundred and fourteen Posts were awarded the certificate for The American Legion Birthday Award by having enrolled by March 17, 1985, a membership for 1985 equalling or exceeding the total 1984 membership in addition to carrying on basic programs throughout the year.

Individual Membership Workers' Award for Recruiting New Members, Reinstatements and Renewals

Nine-hundred-eighty-four Legionnaires who recruited one hundred (100) New Members, Reinstatements, or Renewals by The American Legion Birthday, March 15-17, 1985 for the 1985 membership year were included into the National Century Club and received a special certificate from the National Commander. Each Century Club member was eligible for a chance to win one of five expense paid trips to the 1985 National Convention in New Orleans, Louisiana. The winners are: Edgar L. Turner, Alabama; Perry W. Bradley, Georgia; Jay A. Weaver, Pennsylvania; Lionel A. Morais, Massachusetts; John A. Surman, Indiana.

"Top District Commander" Competition Rules

Competition was divided into five categories based on the District membership without regard to geographic locations. Based on final 1984 totals, District Commanders competed in each of the following categories. A Top District Commander for the National Award was selected from each of the five categories. Second and third place awards also were presented in each category.

First Place Awards—Presented to the District Commander in each category whose 1985 District Membership represents the greatest percentage increase over the final 1984 District Membership* on May 1, 1985.

Second Place Awards—Presented to the District Commander in each category whose 1985 District Membership represents the second highest percentage increase over the final 1984 District Membership* on May 1, 1985.

Third Place Awards—Presented to the District Commander in each category whose 1985 District Membership represents the third highest percentage increase over the final 1984 District Membership* on May 1, 1985.

*Final 1985 Membership as of December 31, 1984

Category I Districts of 15-1,499 Members
Category II Districts of 1,500-2,999 Members
Category III Districts of 3,000-4,999 Members
Category IV Districts of 5,000-7,499 Members
Category V .. Districts of 7,500 and above members

Top District Commander Competition Winner

First Place Awards—National Convention trip which includes round-trip transportation for winner and 6 days/5 nights hotel accommodations while attending The American Legion's 67th National Convention in New Orleans, Louisiana. Also, tickets to the National Commander's Banquet and "Distinguished Guest" status while attending National Convention activities.

Winners:

Category I—Terry Shaw, District 1, Department of Wyoming, 116.74%

Category II—George Wragg, District 17, Department of Florida, 108.28%

Category III—Harry Gieseler, Western District, Department of Alaska, 107.65%

Category IV—B. Frank Fuller, District 13, Department of Florida, 104.33%

Category V—Ted Dzien, District 16, Department of Florida, 104.73%

Second Place Awards—An official American Legion uniform consisting of blazer, trousers, cap and tie.

Winners:

Category I—John Murphy, Ireland District, Department of Canada, 115.00%

Category II—Phyllis Miller, District 2, Department of Oregon, 108.06%

Category III—James Beaumont, District 1, Department of Florida, 104.22%

Category IV—Joseph Nalley, District 8, Department of Florida, 103.07%

Category V—Al Funk, District 1, Department of Wisconsin, 101.35%

Third Place Awards—An official American Legion blazer.

Winners:

Category I—James Shoop, District 3, Department of Utah, 113.36%

Category II—Charles Evilsizer, District 16, Department of Missouri, 106.27%

Category III—Joe Meeks, District 11, Department of Wisconsin, 103.31%

Category IV—Harold Deshotel, District 7, Department of Louisiana, 102.97%

Category V—Bert Vasarella, District 2, Department of Wisconsin, 100.65%.

Administrative Services

William D. Jackson (IN), Executive Director

THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, whose office is located in the National Headquarters, Indianapolis, has four major responsibilities.

1) He performs such duties as may be assigned to him by the National Adjutant to assist in meeting the myriad responsibilities of that office and during temporary absences of the National Adjutant from The American Legion National Headquarters, acts for him.

2) He heads the Administrative Services Division and through it supervises and coordinates the many administrative functions of the Indianapolis Headquarters.

3) He serves on the Personnel Committee of the Headquarters and is Chairman of the Management Review Board.

4) He coordinates EDP-Computer operations, which has a Director reporting to the Executive Director.

Included in the Administrative Services Division of the Indianapolis Headquarters are the following administrative functions: Purchasing; Graphic Arts; General Supply . . . stock, receiving, shipping; Library, Archives, E.A. Blackmore Museum; Printing and Communications; building maintenance; Cafeteria; Personnel Division; Finance section and Insurance section.

The Administrative Services Division also provides all secretarial assistance to the executive officers of The American Legion.

Computer Center

The EDP-Computer Center is currently responsible for the following programs:

Updating of "The American Legion Magazine," SAL, FIRING LINE, Advance, and Legislative Bulletin mailing lists and the printing of mailing labels and renewal notices.

Production of direct membership renewal notices and registers.

The production of membership cards and registers, department accounting reports, statistical information, post questionnaire reports and welcome back notices.

The printing of department paper mailing labels, upon request.

PUFL members updating and financial checks.

The maintenance of inventory controls, purchasing controls and billing applications for The American Legion Emblem Division.

Emblem Sales invoices and reports.

Production of all general ledger accounting information.

Maintenance of the mailing list for the Extension Institute.

Production of audit control and circulation analysis reports for "The American Legion Magazine."

Production of inventory control and purchase order control of National Headquarters.

Accounts receivable.

Retirement Investment program.

Furniture and Fixtures Inventory and Depreciation reports.

Direct mail solicitation programs.

Consolidated Post Reporting.

National Commission and Committee list.

Post Office carrier route discount processing on all department and Magazine labels.

Convention Commission

Wendell G. Williams: (WI), Chairman
Robert P. Radke: (OH), Director

SALT LAKE CITY UTAH, host city for the 66th National Convention proved it can handle large conventions and still make delegates feel welcome. Over 9,000 Legionnaires filled almost every available hotel yet none were housed more than a mile or two from the Salt Palace, site of the Convention sessions.



Wendell G. Williams

The city was praised by the delegates for its cleanliness and friendliness. One of the highlights was the memorial service at the Mormon Tabernacle on Sunday. Estimated attendance at this service was 7,000.

One of the responsibilities of the Convention Commission is to inspect cities as potential sites for future conventions and then make recommendations to the National Executive Committee for final approval. At the Spring Meetings in Indianapolis, the Commission approved a plan to select future Convention cities based not only on their ability to handle our Convention needs, but also on geographic regions. In 1989 we'll be in the Eastern Region, in 1990 the Central Region and in 1991, the Western Region. In 1992 we'll move back to the Central Region and in 1993, to the Eastern Region.

This pattern will substantially reduce travel costs for all delegates and National Headquarters staff. It will also make more cities available for future Convention sites.

The Commission has recommended to the National Executive Committee to award tentative Convention sites five years in advance. This will help the bidding cities to prepare for our Convention by working with the various hotels and convention centers. It also will make it easier for us to get the cities we need to have and want for our Convention. In addition, it allows time for the local Convention Corporation to be set up and properly staffed to insure the best possible Convention for Legionnaires, Auxiliary, SAL, 8 & 40 and families in attendance.

The National Commander, upon recommendation of the Convention Commission signed the contract with the city of Cincinnati for the 1986 National Convention, August 29 through September 4. Tentative awards have been approved by the National Executive Committee for San Antonio, Texas, 1987, August 21 through August 27; Minneapolis, Minnesota, 1988, September 2 through September 7; Baltimore, Maryland 1989 (date negotiable); Indianapolis, Indiana, 1990 (dates negotiable). Other cities making bids were Phoenix, Arizona; Portland, Oregon; Louisville, Kentucky; Philadelphia, Pennsylvania; Detroit, Michigan; and Salt Lake City, Utah.

Revision of the contest rules for Senior and Junior Color Guards and Drill Teams, Senior Bands and the competitive Flag Code has been completed and will be in effect at the National Convention this year.

The Senior and Junior Color Guards and Drill Teams will compete and be judged only in the Convention Parade. No other contests for these units will be scheduled. The Senior Band contest will be a concert contest. Competing bands will not be judged as marching units in the parade.

There are five contest categories offered this year. They are:

- Jr. Color Guard — Jr. Drill Team
- Sr. Color Guard — Sr. Drill Team
- Sr. Band — Concert Only

1984 Defending National Champions are:

- Jr. Drill Team — Copperbelles Post 36, Tucson, AZ
- Sr. Color Guard — Highlanders, Post 201, Louisville, KY
- Sr. Drill Team — Apple Core, Post 370, Louisiana, MO
- Firing Squad — Apple Core, Post 370, Louisiana, MO

New Orleans, a unique blend of the old world and the new is an exciting Convention city. It's world famous restaurants feature some of the best cooking you'll ever experience. It truly is a city with something for everyone. Take advantage of all it has to offer and have an enjoyable Convention.

Distinguished Guests Committee

Maurice E. Druhl (OR), Chairman

The Distinguished Guests Committee operates under the umbrella of the National Convention Commission and is directed to assume the responsibility of coordinating the activities of those persons invited to attend the National Convention as distinguished guests.

The Committee arranges transportation requirements for their arrival and departure and also provides such services to the various events which the guest wishes to attend.

Proper credentials, agendas, itineraries and other necessary details are all involved in this service. Special requests are honored when possible.

The Distinguished Guests Committee normally operates out of the Legion Headquarters hotel. The facility is the nerve center for all of the Committee's operations and is maintained as a convenience and central locator for all distinguished guests.

The overall success of this operation depends almost entirely upon Legionnaires from the Convention city and department. They provide experienced leadership and knowledge to conduct the activities of the committee throughout the Convention.

Special emphasis is placed upon the ability of local aides, drivers and others to help make our guests feel comfortable and at ease during their stay in the Convention city.

Public Relations Commission

William M. Detweiler (LA), Chairman
Hubert R. Dagley, II (IN), Director

THE NATIONAL PUBLIC RELATIONS Commission coordinates all activities and programs designed to publicize the work of The American Legion. During this Legion year significant key goals were achieved by the Commission.

The highlight of the 1984-85 Legion year was the production of a booklet entitled: "The Aging Veteran: Uncounted Costs, Unkept Promises?"



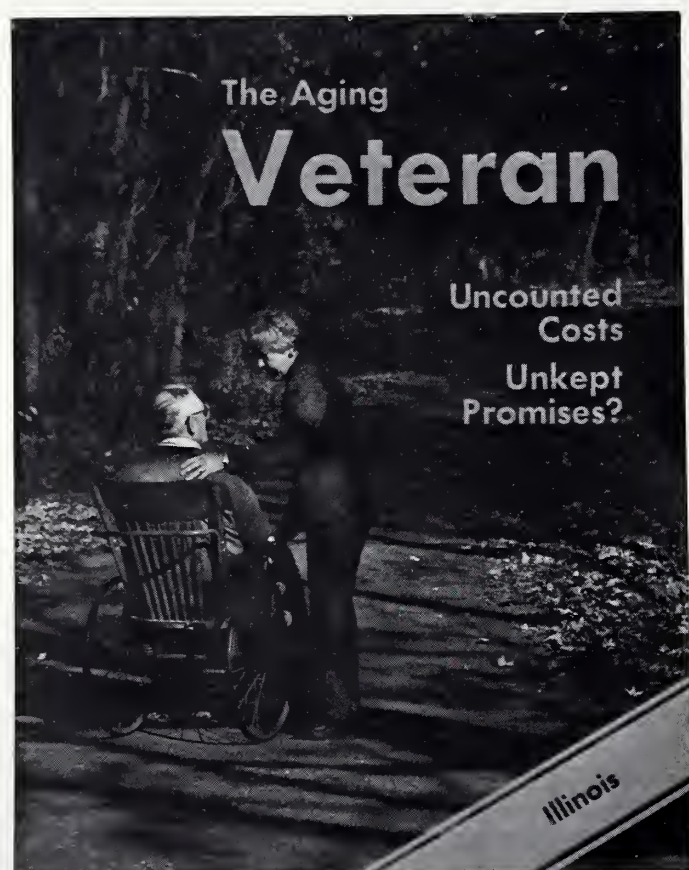
William M. Detweiler

Produced in cooperation with the staff of the Veterans Affairs and Rehabilitation Commission and the Veterans Planning and Coordinating Committee, the booklet describes the impact on each state of potential reductions in the VA budget.

The booklets were distributed to all United States Senators and Representatives, state governors, key syndicated columnists, key Legionnaires, 1,750 daily newspapers, 1,200 television stations, and 750 weekly newspapers with circulation in excess of 10,000.

Emphasis on Audiovisual Production continued during 1984-85, with programs of the 50th anniversary of Boys State, flag etiquette, oratorical contest training, television commercials in support of Direct Membership Solicitation, television and radio public service announcements concerning several Legion concerns, and extensive support for the 1985 national convention.

For the second year The American Legion entry into the "Indianapolis 500 Festival Parade" was coordinated by the Public Relations staff. "The Wonderful World of Disney" theme for the 1985 parade was a natural to highlight the Children and Youth concerns of The American Legion. The float was



The American Legion took the question of who will pay for veterans health care to national legislators and state leaders through a booklet entitled "The Aging Veteran". The booklets were distributed to all U.S. Senators and Representatives, state governors, key syndicated columnists, 1,750 daily newspapers, 1,200 television stations, and 750 weekly newspapers.



The 1985 National Commander's Public Relations Award was presented to ABC Sports for historic coverage of the 1984 Summer Olympic games in Los Angeles. Accepting the award from National Commander Clarence Bacon is Donna deVarona, assistant to the president of ABC Sports.

built around the concept of "A Safe and Secure Childhood" and featured characters from the children's classic "Winnie the Pooh."

The parade itself was carried on 239 television stations in America, 5,000 cable television systems, 78 television stations in Canada, four television stations in Australia, one television station in the Philippines. Nielsen ratings indicate some 30-35 million people viewed the parade.

The American Legion News Service (ALNS) mailing list was expanded in January to include free distribution to all U.S. Senators and Congressmen, governors, VA hospitals and regional offices along with Vietnam Veterans Outreach Centers. Now reaching more than 15,000 individuals, ALNS allows wide distribution of Legion news and pictures in a timely manner.

A second printing of the Public Relations Handbook, The American Legion Speakers' Guide and National Commander's Issues Briefing Book were among publications distributed to departments and other key Legion leaders in the past 12 months.

The 1985 National Commander's Public Relations Award went to ABC Sports for its coverage of the 1984 Summer Olympic Games in Los Angeles. The award was accepted by Donna deVarona, former Olympic swimming champion and a member of the ABC Sports broadcast team, during the annual Washington Conference.

Timely and effective speaker support for the National Commander and other Legion officers continue to be a major endeavor for the Public Relations staff. At the same time, suggested speeches for patriotic holidays and other special days, along with specially prepared holiday artwork and cooperative advertising slicks, continue to be made available to all members.

I extend a special word of thanks from the Public Relations Commission to all national officers, mem-



Illustrating the concern for "The Safe and Secure Child", this year's entry in the Indianapolis 500 Festival Parade featured three characters from the Popular children's story "Winnie the Pooh".

bers of the National Executive Committee and the many commissions, committees and their staff divisions for inviting our participation in their program activities. This excellent cooperation is a capstone to our Legion year.

The American Legion Magazine Commission

Milford A. Forrester (SC) Chairman
Daniel S. Wheeler (IN), Publisher/
Editor-in-Chief



Milford A. Forrester

Magazine's new identity, "THE Magazine For A Strong America," has graphically emerged from an overall plan to reshape and re-invigorate the Legion's first line of communication with its readers and the public.

THE AMERICAN LEGION Magazine in 1985 has continued to march onward and upward to meet its mandated destiny as "one of the enduring monuments of The American Legion."

The major objectives of the Magazine for 1984 have been achieved in grand style, and the 1985 goals are well on the way to completion. The

In May, James N. Sites stepped down as publisher/editor-in-chief and was replaced by his assistant publisher/editor Daniel S. Wheeler. Wheeler is continuing the revitalizing project begun by Sites.

Editorial content has received a dramatic shot in the arm by increased emphasis in covering leading issues of major public concern, involving public figures of the highest stature. Addressing the important issues of our time in interviews and bylined articles during the past year have been Presidents Reagan, Carter, Ford and Nixon; U.N. Ambassador Jeane Kirkpatrick; Chief Justice Warren Burger; Secretary of State George Shultz; Defense Secretary Caspar Weinberger; FBI Director William Webster; Admiral Hyman Rickover; former Treasury Secretary William Simon; CIA Director William Casey; JCS Chairman Gen. John Vessey; Commerce Secretary Malcolm Baldrige and others.

A broad range of other editorial objectives has also been achieved, including to expand the Legion News section. The hard work and accomplishments of posts and Legionnaires are recognized monthly through such features as "Post of the Month," "Legionnaire of the Month" and the new "Legionnaires in Action" column. Other new features which have developed a loyal following are "Defense Issues," "Health" and "Travel."

The goal to upgrade the Magazine's writing standards by bringing in leading U.S. authors is already paying off. The respected Writer's Digest informed us that this year we ranked 12th as a quality market for national writers, compared to the Magazine's position of No. 28 last year and No. 35 in 1983. The Audit Bureau of Circulations ranks the Magazine 22 of 145 leading U.S. magazines in total paid circulation, exceeding such newstand mainstays as U.S. News & World Report, Sports Afield, Vogue and Esquire. In Folio's 1985 top 10 "fastest growing consumer magazines by total revenue in the \$10 to \$15 million category," the Magazine ranked fourth.

But excellent editorial content is only one key to success. Readers must be visually lured into the Magazine. This is where the goal to redesign the Magazine came in. A top notch art editor was added to the staff, and the Magazine's appearance underwent glowing changes almost overnight. The visual impact of the Magazine has never been higher. Added color photography in every issue makes it increasingly enticing to pick up and read.

Concurrent with efforts to strengthen editorial content and design has been the continuing goal to broaden the Magazine's advertising base. Direct-mail solicitation of advertisers continues to attract some new advertising revenue, but the breakthrough is far from complete. VETCOM, Inc. has joined Robert Redden Associates as the publisher's representatives in the Magazine's expanded search for advertising, including defense contractors and suppliers to military bases.

As The American Legion Magazine Commission looks to the remainder of 1985 and into 1986, we cannot hide our enthusiasm or confidence in the Magazine's future. We have just moved our printing operation from Atlanta to Lincoln, Neb., in order to receive better printing capabilities at equal or even less cost. We have filled the staff vacancies with team players ready to roll up their sleeves and get on with the job at hand. The only unfinished business is to gain for the Magazine more quality advertisements to enhance revenue ad appearance.

Considering that the Magazine's readership includes 2.6 million Legionnaires as well as an estimated 6 million more friends, relatives and associates of Legionnaires; that it reaches most of the 1 million members of the American Legion Auxiliary, and that it is regularly distributed to all 535 members of Congress and thousands of other leaders in business, government and the press, it is evident that The American Legion Magazine reaches a cohesive segment of American public opinion that can significantly influence national attitudes on major issues—an appeal of no small import to prospective and current advertisers alike.

The American Legion Magazine Commission recognizes the feeling of kinship that should prevail between Legionnaires and the Magazine. The Magazine belongs to each Legionnaire and what the Magazine publishes should reflect the mandates of the organization and its continued service to the rank-and-file Bluecappers. It's a tall order, but with the support and advice of each and every Legionnaire, it's a goal we are sure we can achieve.

Finance Commission

Walton D. Griffin (TN), Chairman
Webber LaGrange (IN), National Treasurer
Paul M. Allen (MN), Finance Director



Walton D. Griffin

members with the National Adjutant as ex-officio

THE PRIMARY obligation of the Finance Commission is to prepare a yearly budget for submission to the National Executive Committee and to exercise reasonable control to see that the various divisions and/or departments of the National Organization operate within the approved appropriations. The Finance Commission is composed of seven

secretary, and the National Commander and National Treasurer are ex-officio members. Also attending these meetings are both Executive Directors and the Finance Director.

The National Organization had an operating surplus of \$2,758,258 for the year 1984. This is almost \$100,000 more than anticipated since the approved surplus budget was \$2,661,479. In 1984 we received \$5.50 dues per member, which is allocated as follows: \$2.75 to the General Fund; \$2.50 to The American Legion Magazine; \$.25 to Veterans Affairs and Rehabilitation.

The income of the National Organization is derived from annual membership dues, interest on investments, Magazine advertisements, Emblem sales and contributions.

A full financial statement is incorporated in the Auditor's Report and in addition, your attention is directed to the reports of Committees and Trusts which are the responsibility of this Commission, and can be found elsewhere in this program.

American Legion Child Welfare Foundation, Inc.
American Legion Endowment Fund Corporation
American Legion Life Insurance and Trust Committee
American Legion Emblem Committee
American Legion Overseas Graves Decoration Trust

Condensed Report on National Emblem Sales Division

Frank Johnston (IL), Chairman
Alfred L. Lankenau, Jr. (IN), General Manager

THE AMERICAN LEGION emblem is the exclusive property of the National Headquarters. The sale of the emblem, emblem pins, merchandise carrying the emblem and other items of organizational equipment is the responsibility of the National Headquarters in Indianapolis. The following tables show gross sales, net earnings, etc., for the entire calendar year 1984 and for the first three months of 1985.

January 1, to December 31, 1984
(12 months)

Gross Sales	\$4,679,076
Cost of Goods Sold	2,729,516
Overhead	1,301,864
Operating Profit	647,696
(Number of orders processed for first 3 months of 1984 was 14,548.)	

January 1, to March 31, 1985
(3 months)

Gross Sales	\$1,412,224
Cost of Goods Sold	833,282
Overhead	361,521
Operating Profit	217,421
(Number of orders processed for first 3 months of 1985 was 15,857.)	

The American Legion Life Insurance and Trust Committee

Jerome P. Dobel, Jr. (MO), Chairman

THE AMERICAN LEGION Life Insurance Plan now in its 28th year, was officially adopted by the National Executive Committee in Washington, D.C. on February 22, 1958. The Plan is one of the outstanding "Fringe Benefits" offered by membership. The Insurance Committee is assigned for jurisdictional purposes to the National Finance Commission and reports through the Commission to the National Executive Committee. The Insurance Department is administered by the Rollins Burdick Hunter Co., housed in Chicago, Illinois.

Your Insurance Committee has met two times since the last report and is pleased to again announce that the Plan continues to experience growth. This is due in part, to the fact that The American Legion has recognized a need for keeping pace with the nation's economy. Consequently, the committee has periodically sought approval from the National Executive Committee to increase the maximum number of units for which members could apply under the Plan. The most recent action in that respect occurred January 1, 1985 when the maximum number of available units was increased from ten (10) to twelve (12). Legionnaires who were eligible for a maximum of \$120,000 protection before, can now apply for coverage up to \$144,000 in The Legion Life Insurance Plan.

The National Executive Committee passed a resolution granting a 20 percent "across the board increase" in all death benefits for the calendar year 1985. This is the 16th time, in the 27 year history in which an increase of this nature has been made. Example: The \$120,000 policy becomes \$144,000 and a \$10,000 benefit is worth \$12,000. The astounding fact is that cost

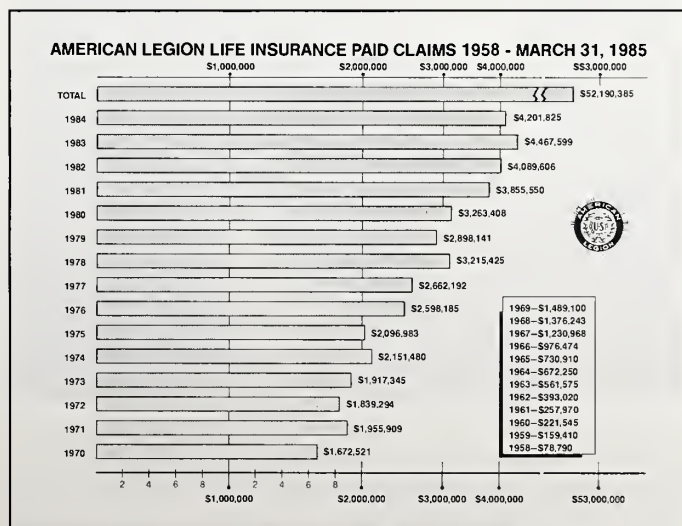
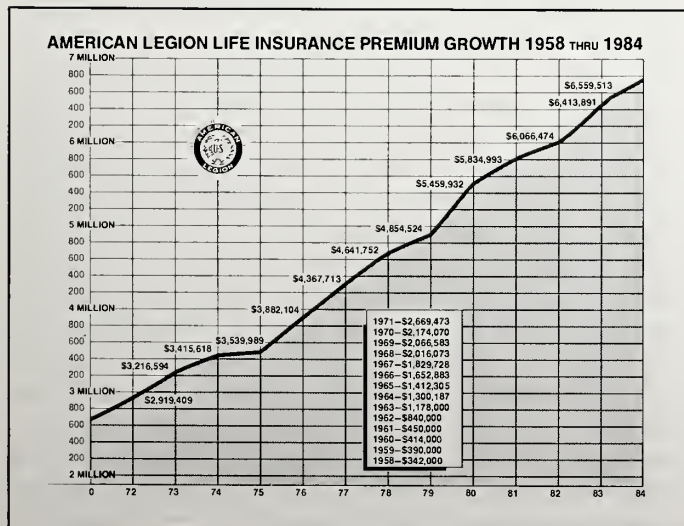
per unit has never increased. It remained only \$24.00 a year.

This is a group plan, in fact, the largest (numerically speaking) of its kind in the country. It is underwritten by Transamerica Occidental Life Insurance Company of California. The coverage is arranged under a group policy for members in all states except permanent residents of Florida, Illinois, New Jersey, North Carolina, Ohio, Texas and Wisconsin, who are insured under individual policies. The United States Life Insurance Company in the City of New York insures permanent residents of New York State and Puerto Rico.

The Insurance Plan is a polished tool, designed to attract the Vietnam age war veterans, as well as help to retain members. Membership workers should not overlook this "fringe benefit program" when working to increase their post's membership.

Premiums and/or contributions paid for 1984 coverage amounted to \$6,559,513. Contributions have continued to grow throughout the years. After the close of each calendar year and after all claims and administrative expenses have been paid in the Group States, the unused premiums are placed in The American Legion Life Insurance Trust. There is in excess of \$5 million in this Trust Fund.

The American Legion Life Insurance Trust has for some years helped support the National Oratorical Contests and The American Legion Baseball Program. The expenditures for 1985 include \$497,248 for the Baseball Program and the Awards for Oratorical Contests are as follows: \$16,000 for 1st Place; \$14,000 for 2nd Place; \$10,000 for 3rd place; and \$8,000 for 4th Place. In addition, each of our Department winners attending the regional contest receives a \$1,000 scholarship award. The twelve contestants at the Sectional Contest receive a similar \$1,000 scholarship award. The total amount set aside for the 1985 Oratorical Budget was \$191,600. The Junior Uniformed Groups participating in the National Convention has \$20,000 set aside for their related expenses and \$127,194 set aside for the Boy's Nation Program. A \$2,500 Scholarship Award for the Boy Scout of year



was granted for 1983. However, the NEC at their Fall Meeting in 1983 changed this to allow in place of a \$2,500 award—\$2,000 a year and not to exceed \$8,000 over a period of four years. These requests for grants of money are approved by The American Legion Life Insurance and Trust Committee, the Finance Commission and N.E.C. Without question, these programs do much to shape tomorrow's leaders.

Over the past 27 years more than 28,000 death claims have been paid, totaling over \$54 million in benefits. During 1985, 1,350,000 Legionnaires who have been members of The American Legion from 2 to 20 years received a brochure mailing alerting them to the fringe benefit of membership and given an application to file if desired. In addition, over 67,000 Legionnaires enrolled in the Insurance Plan received a computer letter reminding them that the Plan provides additional units, and should they wish to increase their present coverage, just execute the application provided. Also approximately 400,000 new members are being informed of this program. During calendar year 1985 approximately \$350,000 will have been spent for advertising in The American Legion Magazine.

Each year, on or about Oct. 15, all insured Legionnaires are requested to report their next year's membership card number when tendering remittance to cover the annual premium due for the next calendar year.

Remember, your American Legion Life Insurance Plan always pays in addition to any other life insurance benefits; it is not intended in any way to replace any existing coverage you may have. It simply makes possible thousands of dollars of extra security at incredibly low cost.

For further information write to The American Legion Life Insurance Plan, Rollins Burdick Hunter Co., 10 South Riverside Plaza, Chicago, Illinois 60606.



Representative Jim Wright (TX), Majority Leader of the U.S. House of Representatives, addresses a Legion audience in March 1985 on the need to preserve veterans benefits.

National Legislative Commission

Gary W. Sammons (MI), Chairman
E. Philip Riggin (MD), Director

THE PRIMARY mission of the National Legislative Commission is to promote the legislative mandates of The American Legion before the Congress of the United States. The legislative program is dictated by resolutions adopted at either a National Convention or meetings of the National Executive Committee.



Gary W. Sammons

The Legislative Commission does not set policy for The American Legion. The Commission, through its Washington, DC legislative staff, concentrates its efforts on carrying out Legion objectives. The National Legislative News Bulletin and other Legion publications help to keep the members of The American Legion and the American Legion Auxiliary abreast of Congressional activity affecting the veteran and his family.

As a result of National Convention and National Executive Committee action, there are more than 170 active resolutions which establish the organization's positions on issues before Congress. The issues range from immigration reform to MX missile deployment. In order to properly communicate Legion opinion on all these matters, it is expected that the Commission staff will present testimony on 50-60 occasions during the First Session of the 99th Congress.

During the Second Session of the 98th Congress, The American Legion continued to achieve numerous success to accompany the various measures enacted during the First Session. A major victory was realized when Congress approved an increase in the volunteer mileage tax deduction from 9 cents a mile to 12 cents a mile. This increase, long sought to benefit all volunteers and not just Legionnaires, is necessary to make up the shortfalls resulting from fewer government programs attributable to program budget cuts.

In the areas of veterans affairs, the Commission was gratified by the enactment of legislation to reauthorize for an additional year the Targeted Jobs Tax Credit—a program aimed at meeting the employment needs of disabled and economically needy veterans by giving



National Commander Clarence Bacon outlines the organization's legislative priorities before the Senate Veterans Affairs Committee.

tax credits to employers who hire eligible individuals. Other measures would make certain modifications in the VA health care system, including issuing guidelines and regulations for consistent VA treatment of alcohol and drug dependence, making telecaptioning devices available to profoundly deaf veterans, giving special pay and other incentives to retain qualified personnel in VA security forces, and encouraging VA to initiate further research into post-traumatic stress disorder. Also passed was legislation to allow temporary presumption of service connection for two disorders connected with exposure to Agent Orange, as well as a requirement for VA to establish guidelines to insure consistent handling of Agent Orange and atomic radiation claims by the VA. A further item of importance in veterans affairs is the creation of a large-scale test program of educational benefits to promote recruitment and retention of quality people by the military.

Despite increased military and economic aid to El Salvador, military assistance to anti-Communist Nicaraguan freedom fighters was curtailed by Congress during the Second Session. However, further actions by the Nicaraguan Sandinista regime may change the minds of many members of Congress. Another area of major concern to the Legion was Congressional approval of funds to deploy the MX missile. These funds were approved by slim margins in both the House and Senate. Preliminary indications during the early months of the 99th Congress point to another major battle over ways to reduce this nation's budget deficits without weakening its military preparedness.

While the National Legislative Commission expects to be successful in 1985 in its promotion of several major legislative initiatives, Congress will be reluctant to approve any additional domestic or

defense spending. The reason for this is simple—the recent accumulation of federal debt is threatening to choke off the current recovery. Congress is intent on reducing federal expenditures, a particularly difficult circumstance for us when considering that current Legion resolutions seek the expenditure of more than \$350 billion annually.

The National Legislative Commission continues to remind Congress that the interests of our membership constitute a reliable cross section of public opinion on most national issues. Congress is further reminded that our members are “grass roots America”, people who freely volunteer their time for projects which benefit the public. The Commission, therefore, encourages all Legionnaires to augment that message by keeping Congressional members informed of what the organization is doing back home and recommending that information on Legion activities be shared with all other members of Congress.

Economic Commission

Frank A. Kelly (GA), Chairman
James G. Bourie (CT), Director

THE NATIONAL ECONOMIC Commission, with its two affiliated committees of Employment and Veterans Preference, is concerned with the economic wellbeing of America's veterans and their families. At the national level the Commission works to secure, and then to implement, federal laws affecting veterans in such areas as federal employment; national employment and training programs and services; small business; and housing. The Commission also works to make American Legion departments, posts, and individual member aware of these national programs so that each Legionnaire can truly “Make America Work” through keeping veterans fully employed and economically secure.

According to statistics supplied by the Office of Personnel Management (OPM) to Congress in March of this year, 41.8 percent of all federal employees, including those of the U.S. Postal Service and Tennessee Valley authority, are veteran preference eligibles. Of this figure, 6.2 percent are disabled with 1.2 percent having a disability rated at 30 percent or more. During the same reporting period, April 1, 1983



Frank A. Kelly



Frank A. Kelly, Chairman, National Economic Commission, between Ms. Alice J. Robinson, Personnel Manager, Hopper Paper Division, Georgia-Pacific Paper Corporation, of Taylorville, IL, (representing the winner in the category of small company), and Mr. William Illing, Director of Employee Development, Kansas City Power and Light Company (winner in the category of large company), of Missouri.

through September 30, 1983, OPM reported that 57,300 or 17 percent of all federal hires were Vietnam era veterans. Additionally, 79 percent of all veterans hired were from the Vietnam era.

Veterans preference has now been extended to those who received campaign medals for service in Lebanon or Grenada during certain designated time periods, and for family members who qualify for such preference under the Veterans Preference Act. Statistics on the number of veterans hired under this change in the law are not available at this time.

The National Economic Commission has testified on numerous occasions before Congress in favor of extending and broadening the opportunities available under the Veterans Readjustment Appointment (VRA) program. Under this program, Vietnam era veterans can be appointed noncompetitively to federal jobs, with an opportunity for special education and/or training. The "Veterans Benefits Improvement Act" (PL 98-543), which became effective October 24, 1984, extended the VRA program through September 30, 1986. Additionally it raised the entry grade level maximum from GS/WG-7 to GS/WG-9, and provided limited appeal rights during the first year of appointment.

During the first half of fiscal year 1984 (FY '84) 9,272 VRA hires were made. This accounted for six percent of all federal hires and 30 percent of all Vietnam era veterans hired during that period. Of the 9,272 VRA hires, eight percent were women; 36 percent were minorities, and ten percent were disabled.

The Economic Commission continues to follow proposed changes in federal personnel procedures, particularly those related to reductions-in-force and retirement, to ensure there is no erosion of veterans

preference. Contracting out of those federal jobs in maintenance and security, which are restricted by law to veterans, is also a continuing concern.

The vacancy that was created at the U.S. Department of Labor (DoL) by the resignation of the former Assistant Secretary for Veterans Employment and Training (ASVET) remained unfilled until May when Congress confirmed Donald Shasteen to be the new ASVET. Mr. Shasteen had previously served as the Deputy Assistant Secretary.

Despite the many cuts that have occurred during FY '85 to government programs, those under the ASVET have not been seriously affected. While the staffing and funding allocated to these programs are seen as "bare bones" by the Commission, they are adequate to meet current objectives.

The Targeted Jobs Tax Credit (TJTC) program, which provides income tax credits to employers of certain eligible groups, to include disabled and Vietnam era veterans, has been extended through December 31, 1985. The Commission has testified in favor of a bill that would not only extend the program for five additional years; but would also open eligibility to all veterans.

Veterans programs under Title IV-C of the Job Training Partnership Act (JTPA) were funded at slightly less than \$10 million of FY '85 and \$7.7 million has been proposed for FY '86. All but one state submitted applications for FY '85 funding. Emphasis for projects for FY '87 funding is expected to be on demonstration projects in a few states, as the proposed funds spread over all states would be too small to have an appreciable result.

The Emergency Veterans Job Training Program (EVJTP) uses government funds to pay eligible employers to hire and train veterans. This program is jointly administered by the VA and DoL and requires cooperation between them to certify eligible veterans and employers for the program. The VA recently



At the 1985 Washington Conference, James McMahon, Chairman, National Employment Committee, talking to Robert O'Toole, Director, Loan Guaranty Service, Veterans Administration, during a break in the program.



At the 1985 Washington Conference, Donald Shasteen, Deputy Assistant Secretary for Veterans Employment and Training, U.S. Department of Labor, Frank A. Kelly, Chairman, Economic Commission, and National Commander Clarence Bacon.

established a Committee on Employer Support of Veterans Employment to aid in the certification process.

Under PL 98-543, EVJTP was extended with different ending dates for various aspects of the program. The Director for Economics has testified on various bills that would further extend and modify the program.

The Economic Division's other VA involvement is with the home loan program. The Administration's recent budget proposal to raise the "users fee" from one to five percent was of particular concern to the Commission as it would shut many first-time-buyers and lower income veterans out of the housing market.

Another proposal by the Administration that caused concern was to eliminate the VA's authority to establish interest rates, with interest rates to be established by negotiation between the lender and the buyer. The Legion testified that such a practice would raise interest rates substantially, and thus prohibit many veterans from buying homes.

The Economic Commission continues to work closely with the Small Business Administration (SBA), especially its Office of Veterans Affairs. The SBA has recently established a Veterans Advisory council with representatives from veterans organizations, DoL, VA, the banking community, and the independent small business community. One of the many subjects being discussed is the 1986 White House Conference on Small Business.

The proposal of the Administration to abolish the SBA has met with strong opposition in Congress. During the first quarter of FY '85, veterans received 22 percent of all SBA guaranteed loans; and 15.5 percent of all direct loans.

The Commission's awards programs for employers of the handicapped, older workers and of veterans continues to be an important tool for making the public

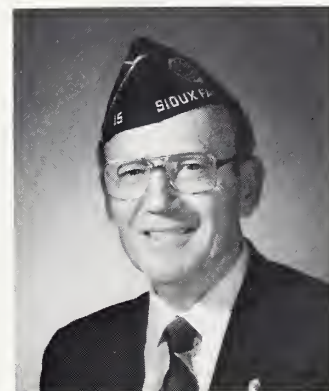
aware of the very special employment needs of these three groups. Citations of Appreciation are also available through the Commission for those departments that want to recognize individuals who have promoted the goals and programs of National Economic Commission.

As always, the Commission responds to letters from veterans, federal agencies, and others on the work of the Commission. It also responds to requests for articles and/or speeches, serves on various committees not otherwise reported here, such as the National Organizations Committee for U.S. Savings Bonds, and in all ways promotes the economic well-being of America's veterans and their families.

Veterans Affairs and Rehabilitation Commission

William F. Lenker (SD) Chairman
Robert E. Lyngh (CO) Director

FROM ITS INCEPTION in the early nineteen hundreds, The American Legion mandated that the medical, socio-economic and financial rehabilitation of returning soldiers and sailors from World War I, be one of its primary goals. In support of these goals, The American Legion through its Veterans Affairs and Rehabilitation Commission



William F. Lenker

has both authored and underwritten a variety of veterans benefits that are now being delivered by the Veterans Administration. As with the preamble to the Constitution of The American Legion, not one word, service, activity or program has been changed or abridged over the years, in the Legion's commitment to the nation's veterans. Indeed the spirit of unselfish devotion to veterans and their dependents and survivors is as strong today as in 1919 when the organization was founded. To this end, the Veterans Affairs and Rehabilitation Commission is now nearing the completion of another year of accomplishment.

As this is written the prevailing question is whether Congress will provide sufficient funding for Fiscal Year 1986 (which begins on Oct. 1, 1985) to carry on all veterans programs. All budget items are being closely scrutinized to determine where economies can be effected. The Legion has pointed out that the cost of



National Commander Clarence Bacon presents a Citation for Meritorious Service to the VAVS Worker of the Year, James R. Thomas of Maryland. Helping congratulate Mr. Thomas are National Veterans and Rehabilitation Chairman W.F. Lenker and Vice Chairman Chester Stellar.

veterans programs, as a share of the total Federal Budget, has declined from 5 percent of the total in FY 1975, to only 2.7 percent during the current Fiscal Year—and this diminishing percentage is causing serious problems in the VA health care program and its ability to deliver quality care in timely fashion to veterans who are entitled to, and apply for such care.

Among the problems to be faced are an effort by the Administration to impose what is referred to as 3rd party reimbursement and a means test to be applied to veterans seeking care for nonservice-connected disabilities. Third party reimbursement would require private sector health insurers to pay VA for care of veterans. The Legion opposes it because it would change the nature of VA health care from a benefit program, which it now is, to a cost-sharing program, along the lines of Medicare. If that happened it would be difficult to defend the present VA program against an effort to merge it into Medicare. A means test, as proposed by the Administration would require a veteran to prove his inability to pay for his care, or charge him for VA care he had received. This requirement would cause the establishment of an awkward, lengthy and questionable formula in law to evaluate a veteran's entitlement. Because the Legion believes that most of the veterans who seek VA care are elderly, sick and poor, it believes the means test formula would be both expensive to administer and unfair to veterans, most of whom are quite ill when they go to VA to seek care.

Another proposal of the Administration is to consolidate the principal functions of the present 59 VA Regional Offices, into 3 regional centers. The American Legion is dead set against this because it would prevent the individual veteran from developing his/her claim and dealing with the VA in person, with the assistance of his service organization representative.

The findings of the Columbia University and American Legion Study of Vietnam Era Veterans are now undergoing scientific analysis, and will be presented to the Legion and to the public throughout the remainder of 1985 and into 1986. The information collected in the study, which involves issues such as Post Traumatic Stress Disorder, Agent Orange exposure, the socio-economic impact of military service on Vietnam veterans and other factors, must undergo peer review prior to its release to insure its scientific validity. The report of the study, when released, will be used by The American Legion in its efforts to improve benefits and services for Vietnam veterans. The final report will be made available also to the VA, and to Congressional Veterans Affairs Committees.

Finally, the day to day functioning of the VA & R Commission should not be overshadowed by its legislative activities. From May 1984, to April 1985, the Board of Veterans Appeals staff of the Legion, presented 7,952 cases of which 173 were scheduled personal hearings. The discharge review section acted as representative in 912 cases. Correspondence received by the claims and the insurance section totaled 7,300 items. A total of 21,714 claim folders were reviewed and more than 4,961 personal contacts were made.

From July 1, 1984, to June 30, 1985, the Field Service conducted surveys at 75 Veterans Administration Medical Centers, 11 satellite outpatient clinics, 1 domiciliary and 6 state veterans homes for a total of 93 visitations. As a result of these inspections, 432 specific recommendations were submitted to the VA.

It is the responsibility of the Veterans Affairs and Rehabilitation Commission and its staff to give meaning to the final sentence in the Preamble to the Constitution of The American Legion: to consecrate and sanctify our comradeship by our devotion to mutual helpfulness. The Commission will continue to fulfill the responsibility with the understanding and support of all members of The American Legion.



Pictured are the 1985-86 officers of the Department Service Officers Association. From left to right they are Jose Villarreal, TX, Sergeant-At-Arms; A.V. "Bubba" Akin, GA, Vice President; Earl Wright, MD, President; John Cryan, IL, Chaplain; and Jim Hurlbert, NE, Secretary-Treasurer.

Foreign Relations Commission

Melvin (Doc) Simon (VT), Chairman
G. Michael Schlee (MD), Director



Melvin (Doc) Simon

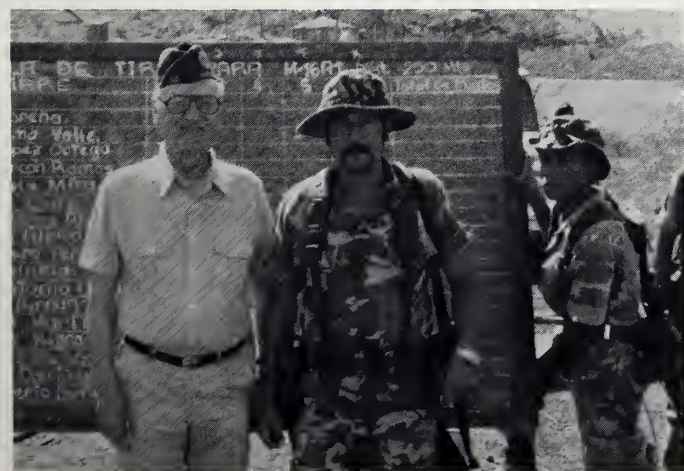
DURING 1984-85, the Foreign Relations Commission emphasized building support for the emerging democracies in Central America, analyzing U.S.-Mexican relations, encouraging support for a sound nuclear arms control policy, and expanding public awareness of the POW/MIA issue.

National Commander Clarence Bacon urged implementation of The American Legion's foreign relations program during his meetings with President Reagan and Secretary of State Shultz. Other methods of program implementation included meetings with key congressmen and senators and articles published in *The American Legion Magazine* on such topics as El Salvador, Nicaragua, Mexico, and nuclear arms control.

Over 70 Legionnaires around the nation participated in the Advocacy Program. They gave speeches and wrote articles urging public and legislative support for a strong U.S. policy to halt communist expansionism in Central America.

Washington Conference

Ambassador Charles Lichenstein, former Deputy U.S. Permanent Representative to the United Nations,



National Commander Clarence Bacon visits El Salvador for a firsthand view.



Chairman Doc Simon greets Ambassador Edward L. Rowny at Washington Conference along with Chairman Roger Munson, National Security Commission.

explained how the Soviets use disinformation and the necessary educational response by the United States. Assistant to the President for National Security Affairs Robert C. McFarlane analyzed the significant improvement in America's world position over the past five years. General Larry D. Welch, Vice Chief of Staff, U.S. Air Force, discussed the key issues confronting the U.S. Air Force. Ambassador Edward L. Rowny, Special Advisory to the President and Secretary of State for Arms Control Matters, examined the outlook for the Geneva nuclear arms control negotiations. Colonel Lawrence Tracy, of the Department of State's Office of Public Diplomacy for Latin America and the Caribbean, evaluated the progress made in aiding Central American democracies. Colonel Gerald Venanzi, Principal Advisor to the Secretary of Defense for POW/MIA Affairs, presented a very comprehensive update on the POW/MIA issue. Ambassador Frank Wisner, Deputy Assistant Secretary of State for African Affairs, evaluated progress made in the past few years under the constructive engagement policy with South Africa.

POW/MIA

Commodore James D. Cossey, USN, Director, East Asian and Pacific Affairs, Office of the Assistant Secretary of Defense, International Security Affairs, explained U.S. Government efforts to resolve the POW/MIA issue to the 66th National Convention. The January issue of *The American Legion Magazine* contained an article examining the POW/MIA situation in Vietnam, Laos, and Kampuchea.

The Special POW/MIA Committee met during the Washington Conference. It reviewed accomplishments in 1984 and adopted a 1985 public awareness program, including a "Write Hanoi" campaign, participation in events commemorating National POW/MIA Recognition Week, and conduct of various commemorative ceremonies throughout the year.



National Commander Clarence Bacon visits U.S. Ambassador Thomas Pickering in El Salvador.

Western Hemisphere Task Force

Recognizing that Mexico is the ultimate objective of communist expansionism originating in Central America, the Western Hemisphere Task Force completed a comprehensive study of U.S.-Mexican relations. After approval by the Foreign Relations Commission, the study was submitted to the National Executive Committee. An adopted resolution incorporated the study's recommendations. It calls for establishment of a presidential bipartisan commission to develop a long-term policy for U.S. relations with Mexico and Canada, greater U.S.-Mexican cooperation to promote democracy in Central America, and increased U.S.-Mexican educational exchanges.

Foreign Relations Briefing

The Foreign Relations Commission annually prepares a briefing on the foreign relations program of The American Legion and the Auxiliary. The briefing includes a text and supporting 35 mm slides. The briefing can be tailored to last from 20-50 minutes depending on the topics covered. Copies of the briefing are available from the National Security-Foreign Relations Division for \$18 (to cover cost of the slides).



Commander Russell Cohn, Post No. 68, Department of District of Columbia; Assistant Secretary of State Robert E. Lamb; and National Commander Clarence Bacon at the annual Post No. 68 foreign relations reception.

National Security Commission

Roger A. Munson (OH), Chairman
G. Michael Schlee (MD), Director

THE REAL WORLD is not a pleasant world. There are ship attacks in the Persian Gulf; the Gulf of Suez has been mined—terrorist attacks abound. Cuba and the Soviet Union are exporting terror and weapons to unbalance friendly countries in Central America. Vietnam is still causing trouble in Cambodia and the Vietnamese border with China is far from peaceful. The Korean War is really not over. Armed Americans face armed North Koreans on that troubled peninsula. In short, there is much opportunity for mischief in the world.



Roger A. Munson

The challenge to America is to keep the peace.

We must keep the peace while competing on a worldwide basis with a foreign belligerent, socialist, military power which derives its authority to govern its own people from the barrel of a gun. Its way of life is totally alien to the values which we in the United States hold so dear. It has no respect for nor does it even acknowledge the basic individual and human rights which we as Americans have come to cherish since the founding of our democracy some 209 years ago.

We have been successful for 40 years, at keeping the peace between the "super powers" because the United States, a peaceful nation, has maintained a well equipped and well trained armed force as well as a modern, highly accurate nuclear deterrent. However, the United States has allowed its lead in strategic nuclear weapons as well as its modern conventional forces to deteriorate, to the point where we may be considered second best.

There is no reason to expect that Legionnaires will settle for a defense posture that is second best to anyone. If the Congress of the United States is properly educated on the following important issues, there is every reason to expect that our deterrent will remain effective, that the morale in our armed forces will remain high, and that those who serve will be equipped and trained on the best weapons that America can produce.

The United States should continue to provide the funding necessary to modernize the elements which make up the Strategic TRIAD to offset the Soviet's



National Security Advisory to the President Robert C. MacFarlane addresses a joint session of the National Security and Foreign Relations Commissions of The American Legion during the annual Washington Conference.

substantial lead. The buildup of the U.S. Navy should continue at a pace to counter the Soviet's increasing ability to control some of the sea lines of communication so essential to our ability to sustain troops in an overseas location. We must continue to modernize the Army to insure that if we do go to war, we will have an excellent chance of winning.

The United States must seek arms control measures which do not place us at a strategic disadvantage, which allow us to modernize as necessary to continue to provide a credible deterrent, and which contain provision for compliance including on-site inspection by both sides.

While manpower shortages have become less of a problem in the past several months, we are concerned that continued improvements in the economy will cause skilled service personnel to vote with their feet forcing a return to conscription as the primary source of manpower for the armed forces.

Activities of the National Security Commission

On August 31, 1984, 139 members of the National Security Commission and invited guests traveled to Hill Air Force Base, home of two fighter wings, one in the active Air Force, and one in the Air Force Reserve, and the Ogden Air Logistics Center.

During the visit, members toured the facility which monitors mock combat between fighters and provides immediate information to instructors who flag mistakes and discuss them with the pilots; toured the facility which rebuilds F-4 and F-16 aircraft seeing 23-16s and 40-F-4 aircraft currently being rebuilt. Attendees were briefed on and inspected an F-16 fighter plane, the most current aircraft in the inven-

tory; and received a briefing on the current status of the Intercontinental Ballistic Missile force and an update on the U.S.-USSR strategic missile force balance. The day was capped by a flight demonstration graphically showing the capabilities of the F-16.

On Saturday morning, September 1, 1984, members of the National Security Commission met in joint session with the Foreign Relations Commission for a briefing program of interest to members of both commissions. The first speaker was the Honorable Lawrence J. Korb, Assistant Secretary of Defense for Manpower, Installations and Logistics. Dr. Korb outlined the current status of recruiting and retention in the armed forces and indicated the steps being taken to forestall potential recruiting problems being faced by the armed forces in the next decade.

Following Dr. Korb's presentation, former Congressman Edward J. Derwinski, who now serves as Counselor to the Department of State, briefed the joint session on the current status of U.S. foreign policy. He pointed out troubled areas of foreign policy where the Soviet Union is involved, and suggested ways by which the current Administration is taking steps to foster better relations with our potential adversaries.

The last speaker of the morning was Ambassador Edward L. Rowny, Chief Negotiator to the Strategic Arms Reduction Talks (START). Ambassador Rowny briefed both commissions on the current status of negotiations with the Soviets, as well as pointing out some of the differences in viewpoints between the United States and Soviet negotiators.

During the Washington Conference, the National Security Commission met in general session to hear speakers on subjects of interest.

The National Security Commission and Foreign Relations Commission met in joint session on March 4, 1985. Ambassador Charles Lichenstein of the



Department Vice Commander Harrison Orr of the Department of South Carolina presents The American Legion Medal for Scholastic Excellence to Cadet Lieutenant Colonel Christopher N. Ayres from Air Force ROTC Detachment 770 at Clemson University at ceremonies held on March 31, 1985.



National Commander Clarence M. Bacon and National Security Commission Chairman Roger A. Munson discuss our nation's defenses with Defense Secretary Caspar Weinberger during the 1985 Washington Conference.

Heritage Foundation described disinformation (and other active measures such as sabotage and espionage) as forming one-third of the Soviets' "three-legged stool of power." The other two legs being Soviet use or threatened use of force and use or support of terrorism. Ambassador Lichenstein said the Soviets use disinformation with great skill and sophistication. He urged The American Legion to alert Americans to the Soviet and encourage educators to provide objective courses on the nature and threat of communism.

The next speaker was Special Assistant to the President for National Security Affairs Robert C. McFarlane. He stated that the United States is in the best position in years to negotiate with the Soviet Union because America's position in the world has greatly improved in the past few years. This change has resulted from modernization of the U.S. armed forces, economic recovery, and overall improved conduct of U.S. foreign policy. In the future, the United States must maintain a credible nuclear deterrent triad. Additionally, there must be a continuing U.S. commitment to assist economic development of third world countries in order to prevent increasing Soviet influence in the developing world.

General Larry D. Welch, Vice Chief of Staff, U.S. Air Force then presented a very comprehensive discussion of key personnel, equipment, and doctrinal issues facing the U.S. Air Force today and those anticipated in the future.

The Joint session continued with a speech by Ambassador Edward L. Rowny, Special Advisory to the President and Secretary of State for Arms Control Matters. Ambassador Rowny emphasized President Reagan's policy that any nuclear arms control agreement must be equitable, verifiable, and contribute to stability. Ambassador Rowny stated we are moving to a new strategic relationship based more on defensive systems and less on offensive systems. The Soviets have

clearly identified their negotiating objective as being the "non-militarization of outer space." Thus, the Soviets may balk at any reduction of offensive weapons until they are satisfied on space weapons.

The National Security Commission met separately for the remainder of the afternoon on March 4. The speaker for the separate session was Mr. John Kester, former Special Assistant to the Secretary of Defense in the Carter Administration, who spoke on the need to return to conscription as the primary source of manpower for the armed forces, a position long held by The American Legion.

The session held on March 6 opened with an address by Dr. Gerold Yonas, acting Deputy Director of the Strategic Defense Initiative. Dr. Yonas briefed the Commission on the several areas of research that SDI was examining and emphasized that as of this time, the effort only involved research, but is without a doubt, the most important and significant work being done for the future. Following this briefing, the National Security Commission considered several resolutions properly referred.

Blood Donor Activities

In the period from June 1, 1983 through May 31, 1984, 34 American Legion Departments actively participated in The American Legion Blood Program. The Departments of Delaware, Minnesota, and North Dakota were co-winners of both of the National Commander's awards for participation on the basis of the number of individual Legionnaires.

The American Legion and the American Legion Auxiliary joined with the American Red Cross in the annual Holiday Blood Drive. Created to meet the needs of patients when blood donations are down and the need for blood rises, the 1984-85 drive was most successful.

ROTC Medals

Departments having ROTC units supported ROTC programs by either awarding or encouraging Posts under their jurisdiction to award and participate in The American Legion's ROTC Medal Program. Response to this program has been outstanding. During the July 1, 1983 to June 30, 1984 period, 1,001 medals have been awarded to deserving ROTC and Junior ROTC candidates. Presentations of medals were made to 415 ROTC units in 41 states and the District of Columbia.

Crime Resistance

The American Legion National Crime Resistance Program continues to be a viable method of community involvement for local Legion Posts. The Crime Resistance booklet is in its 5th printing, and more than 475,000 copies have been distributed thus far to schools, Auxiliary Units, Legion Posts and other civic groups.



GEO. S. OLIVE & CO.
CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS

Clarence M. Bacon, National Commander
The American Legion
National Headquarters
Indianapolis, Indiana

We have examined the balance sheet of The American Legion National Headquarters as of December 31, 1984 and the related statement of revenue, expenses and changes in fund balances for the year ended December 31, 1984. Our examinations were made in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards and, accordingly, included such tests of the accounting records and such other auditing procedures as we considered necessary in the circumstances.

In our opinion, the aforementioned financial statements present fairly the financial position of The American Legion National Headquarters at December 31, 1984 and 1983 and the results of its operations and changes in its fund balances for the year ended December 31, 1984, in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles applied on a consistent basis.

Geo. S. Olive & Co.

Indianapolis, Indiana
March 22, 1985

PRACTICE OFFICE LOCATIONS
INDIANAPOLIS
BLOOMINGTON
EVANSVILLE
FORT WAYNE
MERRILLVILLE
MUNCIE
RICHMOND
VALPARAISO

MEMBER OF THE AMERICAN GROUP
OF C.P.A. FIRMS WITH
OFFICES IN PRINCIPAL CITIES

THE AMERICAN LEGION

Balance

		December 31	
		1984	1983
ASSETS			
CURRENT FUND:			
Cash		\$ 2,356,183	\$ 955,326
Accounts receivable:			
Emblem Division		75,884	48,957
Publications Division		284,477	283,246
Other		164,994	132,843
Accrued interest on investments		439,296	500,757
Inventories:			
Emblem Division		777,741	815,576
Publications Division		1,167,482	193,833
Prepaid expenses and supplies		182,908	179,128
Postal deposits and other advances		31,102	55,395
		<u>5,480,067</u>	<u>3,165,061</u>
Investments—note 2:			
Segregated for Designated Funds		8,110,385	7,117,988
Segregated for Washington, D. C. building		503,007	477,901
Other		16,887,061	16,574,743
		<u>25,500,453</u>	<u>24,170,632</u>
Property and equipment:			
Washington, D. C. real estate:			
Land		80,000	80,000
Building		815,183	815,183
Furniture, fixtures, and equipment in:			
National Headquarters building, Indianapolis, Indiana .		1,349,304	1,187,944
Washington, D. C. building		309,715	299,573
Capitalized leases—note 3		499,362	491,862
		<u>3,053,564</u>	<u>2,874,562</u>
Deduct: Accumulated depreciation and amortization		<u>1,934,310</u>	<u>1,671,575</u>
		<u>1,119,254</u>	<u>1,202,987</u>
		<u>32,099,774</u>	<u>28,538,680</u>
NONEXPENDABLE FUNDS—note 6:			
Overseas Graves Decoration Fund:			
Cash		40,713	9,347
Accrued interest on investments		7,360	6,778
Investments		509,462	494,398
		<u>557,535</u>	<u>510,523</u>
Paid-Up-For-Life Membership Fund:			
Cash		82,750	—
Accrued interest on investments		52,875	27,166
Investments		4,644,540	4,150,015
		<u>4,780,165</u>	<u>4,177,181</u>
		<u>\$37,437,474</u>	<u>\$33,226,384</u>

See notes to financial statements.

NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS

Sheet

Exhibit A

		December 31	
		1984	1983
LIABILITIES AND FUNDS			
CURRENT FUND:			
Liabilities:			
Accounts payable	\$	999,798	\$ 967,213
Capitalized lease obligations—note 3		180,654	308,645
Deposits on Emblem merchandise sales		152,646	115,005
Funds in transit to The American Legion			
Life Insurance Trust		945,973	562,981
Deferred dues income		11,087,160	11,050,352
Accrued vacation benefits		299,228	290,248
Provision for health insurance liability		45,000	45,000
Other liabilities		37,970	37,728
Total liabilities		<u>13,748,429</u>	<u>13,377,172</u>
Fund balance—notes 4 and 5:			
Restricted funds:			
Oratorical Contest Fund		150,291	121,700
Other restricted funds		39,306	31,827
Designated funds:			
The Restricted Fund		5,954,266	4,978,501
The Reserve Fund		2,156,119	2,139,487
Direct Member Solicitation Fund		755	156,752
		<u>8,300,737</u>	<u>7,428,267</u>
Appropriated funds		1,397,477	1,438,078
Unappropriated		8,653,131	6,295,163
Total fund balance		<u>18,351,345</u>	<u>15,161,508</u>
		<u>32,099,774</u>	<u>28,538,680</u>
NONEXPENDABLE FUNDS—note 6:			
Overseas Graves Decoration Fund:			
Fund balance		557,535	510,523
		<u>557,535</u>	<u>510,523</u>
Paid-Up-For-Life Membership Fund:			
Fund balance		4,780,165	4,177,181
		<u>4,780,165</u>	<u>4,177,181</u>
		<u>\$37,437,474</u>	<u>\$33,226,384</u>

THE AMERICAN LEGION

Statement of Revenue, Expense Current

Year End

19

	Unappropriated	Appropriated Funds
REVENUE:		
National dues	\$13,953,081	
Sales of Emblem items	4,676,588	
Advertising revenue	2,810,010	
Investment income	2,091,056	
American Legion Endowment Fund		
Corporation income received—note 7	580,612	
Amounts withdrawn from The American Legion		
Life Insurance Trust—note 8	679,575	
Restricted contributions	42,500	
Other income	713,612	
	<u>25,547,034</u>	
 EXPENSES:		
Salaries	5,564,895	
Employee benefits—note 9	1,245,329	
Cost of Emblem items sold	2,786,561	
Direct publication expenses	6,787,613	
Executive and staff travel	609,588	
Commission and committee	1,224,782	
Operational	1,753,206	
Office	956,817	
Occupancy	752,032	
Special projects and programs	1,107,953	
	<u>22,788,776</u>	
 EXCESS OF REVENUE OVER EXPENSES	2,758,258	
 FUND BALANCES, BEGINNING OF YEAR	6,295,163	\$1,438,078
 INTERFUND TRANSFERS—note 4	(400,290)	
Adjustment to appropriated fund balance—		
note 5		(40,601)
 FUND BALANCES, END OF YEAR	<u>\$ 8,653,131</u>	<u>\$1,397,477</u>

See notes to financial statements.

NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS

and Changes in Fund Balances Fund

Exhibit B
Sheet 1

December 31

		1983
Designated and Restricted Funds	Total Current Fund	Total Current Fund
	\$13,953,081	\$14,064,208
	4,676,588	4,516,330
	2,810,010	3,046,671
\$ 592,107	2,683,163	2,253,208
	580,612	585,690
504,062	1,183,637	832,504
10,000	52,500	93,230
529,024	1,242,636	1,000,551
<u>1,635,193</u>	<u>27,182,227</u>	<u>26,392,392</u>
	5,564,895	5,255,478
	1,245,329	1,286,057
	2,786,561	2,649,172
	6,787,613	6,232,027
	609,588	605,993
	1,224,782	1,119,914
	1,753,206	1,692,926
	956,817	953,814
	752,032	786,113
<u>1,163,013</u>	<u>2,270,966</u>	<u>1,212,528</u>
<u>1,163,013</u>	<u>23,951,789</u>	<u>21,794,022</u>
472,180	3,230,438	4,598,370
7,428,267	15,161,508	10,563,138
400,290	—	—
	(40,601)	—
<u>\$8,300,737</u>	<u>\$18,351,345</u>	<u>\$15,161,508</u>

(Exhibit B
Sheet 2)

THE AMERICAN LEGION

Statement of Revenue, Expense Designated and Year Ended De

	Designated Funds		
	The Restricted Fund	The Reserve Fund	Direct Member Solicitation Fund
REVENUE:			
Investment income.....	\$ 575,475	\$ 16,632	
Amounts withdrawn from The American Legion Life Insurance Trust—note 8			\$ 395,062
Restricted contributions.....			
Income from Direct Member Solicitation Program			529,024
	<u>575,475</u>	<u>16,632</u>	<u>924,086</u>
EXPENSE:			
Special projects and programs			<u>1,080,083</u>
EXCESS (DEFICIENCY) OF REVENUE OVER EXPENSES	575,475	16,632	(155,997)
FUND BALANCES, BEGINNING OF YEAR	4,978,501	2,139,487	156,752
INTERFUND TRANSFERS—note 4	<u>400,290</u>		
FUND BALANCES, END OF YEAR	<u>\$5,954,266</u>	<u>\$2,156,119</u>	<u>\$ 755</u>

See notes to financial statements.

NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS

Exhibit B
Sheet 2

and Changes in Fund Balances Restricted Funds mber 31, 1984

Restricted Funds		
Oratorical Contest Fund	Other Restricted Funds	Total Designated And Restricted Funds
		\$ 592,107
\$109,000		504,062
	\$10,000	10,000
		529,024
<u>109,000</u>	<u>10,000</u>	<u>1,635,193</u>
<u>80,409</u>	<u>2,521</u>	<u>1,163,013</u>
28,591	7,479	472,180
121,700	31,827	7,428,267
<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u>400,290</u>
<u>\$150,291</u>	<u>\$39,306</u>	<u>\$8,300,737</u>
		(Exhibit B Sheet 1)

THE AMERICAN LEGION

Notes to Financial Statements

NOTE 1—SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES:

General: The American Legion National Headquarters (the Legion) is a national veterans organization which was declared to be a corporate body by an Act of the United States Congress on September 16, 1919. The Legion acquired all of the assets and assumed all of the liabilities of the predecessor unincorporated national organization of the same name.

Basis of Presentation: The Legion generally reports for financial statement purposes on the accrual method of accounting, recognizing income when earned and expenses when incurred.

The Legion maintains its accounts on a fund accounting basis wherein the accountability for certain segments of its operations are presented in specific designated and restricted fund balances. Further, the Legion has designated certain amounts for future projects or purposes, which amounts are presented as appropriated funds in the accompanying financial statements.

The revenue and expenses of nonexpendable funds are not included in the Statement of Revenue, Expenses and Changes in Fund Balances—Current Fund. Instead, they are recorded directly to the nonexpendable funds involved as set forth in the footnotes to the financial statements.

The amounts shown for 1983 in the accompanying Statement of Revenue, Expenses and Changes in Fund Balances—Current Fund are included only to provide a basis for comparison with 1984 amounts.

Accounts Receivable: The direct charge-off method is used to account for losses in collection of accounts receivable. An allowance for uncollectible accounts receivable is considered unnecessary by the Legion because all significant accounts expected to be uncollectible have been written off.

Inventories: Inventories, which consist of Emblem items held for sale and magazine paper and publication rights, are valued at the lower of cost or market. Supplies which are not intended for sale are expensed when purchased.

Investments: Investments are recorded at cost. Premiums or discounts on investments are generally recognized at the time of disposal or maturity.

Property and Equipment: Furniture, fixtures and equipment are carried at cost and are depreciated beginning in the year after acquisition on the straight-line method based on the estimated useful lives of the assets involved. Leasehold improvements and repairs are expensed when incurred.

Depreciation on the Washington, D. C. building, which was constructed in 1951, is computed on the straight-line method using a fifty-year life. Beginning in 1969, investments approximately equal to the accumulated depreciation on the building have been segregated. Income on these investments is unrestricted.

Income: Dues are recognized as income in the applicable membership period which is on a calendar-year basis.

Income from The American Legion Endowment Fund Corporation and The American Legion Life Insurance Trust are recorded when received. These receipts are for projects and programs conducted in the year of receipt.

Pension Plan: The Legion has a defined-benefit pension plan covering substantially all of its employees, as well as those of certain affiliated and subordinated groups. The plan was established in 1944 by vote of the Legion's National Convention. Contributions to the plan are made by the Legion and other participating groups on the basis of annual actuarial valuations. The annual cost, as determined by the actuary, is computed using the aggregate-cost method and includes in normal cost any past service costs.

Federal Income Tax: The Legion is exempt from federal income tax (except on unrelated business income) under Section 501 of the Internal Revenue Code.

NOTE 2—INVESTMENTS (CURRENT FUND):

The cost and market value of Current Fund investments are as follows:

	December 31			
	1984		1983	
	Cost	Market Value	Cost	Market Value
Segregated for Designated Funds:				
U. S. Government obligations	\$ 7,832,924	\$ 8,093,383	\$ 6,988,717	\$ 6,803,000
Accrued interest—restricted	188,110	188,110	125,349	125,349
Uninvested cash	89,351	89,351	3,922	3,922
	<u>8,110,385</u>	<u>8,370,844</u>	<u>7,117,988</u>	<u>6,932,271</u>
Segregated for Washington, D.C. building:				
U. S. Government obligations	503,007	489,506	477,901	447,586
Other:				
U. S. Government obligations	16,687,061	16,946,581	16,474,743	16,024,407
Certificates of deposit	200,000	200,000	100,000	100,000
	<u>16,887,061</u>	<u>17,146,581</u>	<u>16,574,743</u>	<u>16,124,407</u>
Total investments	<u>\$25,500,453</u>	<u>\$26,006,931</u>	<u>\$24,170,632</u>	<u>\$23,504,264</u>

NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS

al Statements

NOTE 3—CAPITAL AND OPERATING LEASES:

The Legion has entered into lease agreements (which are accounted for as capital leases) for the rental of computer and copying equipment. The Legion has options to purchase the equipment or to extend the leases at the end of the original lease terms. The Legion is liable for property taxes, insurance, and repairs and maintenance in connection with the leased equipment. Cost and accumulated amortization of capitalized leases were \$499,362 and \$299,700 at December 31, 1984 and \$491,862 and \$199,800 at December 31, 1983. Future minimum payments on these leases, together with the present value of the payments, are as follows:

Years ending	
December 31:	
1985	\$152,780
1986	28,104
1987	34,988
Total future minimum payments	215,872
Less: Amount representing interest (approximately 16%)	35,218
Present value of future minimum payments	<u>\$180,654</u>

The Legion also rents other computer equipment, copiers, and cash registers under operating leases. Total rental expense on these operating leases was approximately \$96,000 in 1984 and \$145,000 in 1983.

In addition, the Legion has a lease with the State of Indiana for rental of the National Headquarters building in Indianapolis through November, 1985. According to the terms of the lease, in lieu of rental payments the Legion is required to maintain the interior of the building, as well as provide adequate insurance on the building. The cost of maintenance and insurance approximated \$281,000 in 1984 and \$260,000 in 1983. The Legion has the option of renewing the lease on the same terms through November, 1989.

NOTE 4—RESTRICTED AND DESIGNATED FUNDS:

Receipts which are restricted by the donor are credited to the appropriate restricted fund, against which all expenditures for the related project or program are charged. Periodically, the Legion may add to restricted funds through allocations from unappropriated funds for specific future purposes and projects.

The Restricted Fund, a designated fund, is restricted as to use by action of the National Finance Commission and National Executive Committee. Earnings of the Fund, as well as principal, can be expended only on the recommendation of the National Finance Committee and a two-thirds affirmative vote of the National Executive Committee at two successive meetings. It is the policy of The American Legion to transfer 10% of the prior year's net income to the Restricted Fund. The effect of this for 1984 is \$400,290.

The Reserve Fund, a designated fund, also is restricted as to use by action of the National Finance Commission and National Executive Committee. Earnings of the Fund may be used for the general operations of the Legion, but the principal can be expended only:

- (a) By action of the Legion at its national convention, or
- (b) By two-thirds affirmative vote of the National Executive Committee in two successive meetings not less than sixty days apart.

NOTE 5—APPROPRIATED FUNDS AND INTERFUND TRANSFERS:

There were no interfund transfers between unappropriated and appropriated funds. The balances of appropriated funds were as follows:

	December 31	
	1984	1983
Publications Reserve	\$ 397,939	\$ 397,939
Real Estate Reserve	841,977	841,977
Convention Reserve	100,000	100,000
Employee Insurance Premium Stabilization Reserve	57,561	98,162
Totals	<u>\$1,397,477</u>	<u>\$1,438,078</u>

During 1984, the National Finance Commission approved reducing the Employee Insurance Premium Stabilization Reserve to offset an increase in health insurance premiums. This action resulted in a reduction of the reserve of \$40,601.

NOTE 6—NONEXPENDABLE FUNDS:

The earnings of the Overseas Graves Decoration Fund are being used to honor, preserve and decorate the graves of those who served in the United States armed forces who are buried overseas. The Fund is to continue at the will of the National Convention of the Legion or the National Executive Committee. The Fund's trust agreement may be amended, changed or succeeded at the will of the National Executive Committee, provided that the purpose for which the Fund was created is retained.

In October, 1974, the National Executive Committee approved the establishment of a life membership plan available to any member of a participating department. In accordance with the plan, the assets of the Paid-Up-For-Life Membership Fund are segregated in a trust account from which funds equal to the annual dues of life members are withdrawn for current operations each year. The trust agreement provides that the Legion has the right to withdraw part or all of the assets of the trust account and to modify or terminate the trust agreement at its discretion.

Changes in Nonexpendable Funds during the year ended December 31, 1984 are as follows:

	Overseas Graves Decoration Fund	Paid-Up-For-Life Membership Fund
Revenue:		
Paid-Up-For-Life membership dues collected		\$ 657,390
Investment income	\$ 59,071	476,866
	<u>59,071</u>	<u>1,134,256</u>
Expenses:		
Membership dues withdrawn		451,958
Decoration of graves:		
European Theatre	11,529	
Philippine Islands	500	
Administrative expense	30	67,292
Trust fees		<u>12,022</u>
	<u>12,059</u>	<u>531,272</u>
Excess of revenue over expenses	47,012	602,984
Fund balances, January 1, 1984	510,523	4,177,181
Fund balances, December 31, 1984	<u>\$557,535</u>	<u>\$4,780,165</u>

The cost and market value of investments in the Nonexpendable Funds are as follows:

	December 31			
	1984		1983	
	Cost	Market Value	Cost	Market Value
Overseas Graves Decoration Fund:				
U. S. Government obligations	<u>\$ 509,462</u>	<u>\$ 513,960</u>	<u>\$ 494,398</u>	<u>\$ 487,782</u>
Paid-Up-For-Life Membership Fund:				
U. S. Government obligations	\$2,694,558	\$2,750,294	\$1,358,622	\$1,362,893
Commercial paper	217,000	217,000	217,000	217,000
Money market accounts	1,110,694	1,110,694	2,452,012	2,452,012
Common stocks	622,288	702,038	122,381	174,987
Total investments	<u>\$4,644,540</u>	<u>\$4,780,026</u>	<u>\$4,150,015</u>	<u>\$4,206,892</u>

NOTE 7—AMERICAN LEGION ENDOWMENT FUND CORPORATION:

The American Legion Endowment Fund Corporation (the Endowment Fund) was incorporated in 1925 as a not-for-profit corporation with perpetual existence to act as trustee for the American Legion Endowment Fund, which was created to provide permanent funding for rehabilitation of American veterans and assistance to orphans of veterans. In August, 1946, the Legion transferred securities having a market value of \$2,001,000 to the Endowment Fund. The assets transferred have been held segregated by the Endowment Fund and the principal related to the 1946 transfer, which had a market value of \$1,655,302 at December 31, 1984, may be withdrawn by the Legion, if needed, for rehabilitation of veterans or assistance to orphans of veterans.

Income earned on the investments of the Endowment Fund, net of administrative expenses, is payable to the Legion to support its programs for the above-mentioned purposes. In addition to the amount received from the Endowment Fund of \$580,612 in 1984, there was \$164,350 at December 31, 1984, in net investment earnings of the Endowment Fund, which was payable to the Legion.

NOTE 8—LIFE INSURANCE TRUST:

In connection with The American Legion's Life Insurance Plan, the Legion has created a Trust to which the First National Bank of Kansas City, Missouri, as Trustee, holds legal title. The accumulated earnings of the Trust funds and any experience rating refunds and dividends received from the insurers, which aggregate to approximately \$5,126,000 as of December 31, 1984, are available for any of the following purposes, if approved by the Legion:

- To increase the Trust fund.
- To reduce or pay in full the life insurance premiums thereafter due from participants.
- To provide additional life insurance benefits for the participants.
- To make refunds to the participants.
- To make distributions to the Legion in support of its activities and programs serving the interest of the Legion and its members, provided that such distributions are not disapproved in writing by a majority of the participants.

In accordance with the provisions of item (e) above, the Legion's National Executive Committee has approved partial funding of the oratorical contest, Boys' Nation, American Legion Baseball, and other programs of the Legion. At December 31, 1984, \$844,042 in Trust Funds had been approved for use in designated programs during 1985.

NOTE 9—PENSION PLAN:

Pension expense under the defined-benefit pension plan in which the Legion participates was \$508,105 in 1984. Accumulated plan benefit information, as estimated by the plan's actuary, and net assets of the plan allocable to The American Legion National Headquarters were as follows:

	January 1	
	1984	1983
Actuarial present value of accumulated plan benefits:		
Vested.....	\$ 9,480,679	\$ 9,087,237
Nonvested	1,029,383	1,009,019
Total	<u>\$10,510,062</u>	<u>\$10,096,256</u>
Net assets available for plan benefits (at market value)	<u>\$11,684,688</u>	<u>\$10,889,727</u>

The assumed rate of return used in determining the actuarial present value of accumulated plan benefits was 6%.

NOTE 10—LITIGATION:

The Legion is currently involved as a co-defendant in several legal actions. It is the opinion of the National Judge Advocate that any ultimate liability of the Legion will not be material to the financial statements.

G&O
GEO. S. OLIVE & CO.
CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS

Clarence M. Bacon, National Commander
The American Legion
National Headquarters
Indianapolis, Indiana

OPINION ON SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION

We have examined and reported separately on the basic financial statements of The American Legion National Headquarters as of December 31, 1984 and 1983 and for the year ended December 31, 1984.

The examinations referred to above were made for the purpose of forming an opinion on those financial statements of The American Legion National Headquarters taken as a whole. The supplementary information as listed in the accompanying table of contents is presented for purposes of additional analysis and is not a required part of the basic financial statements. Such supplementary information has been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the examination of the basic financial statements and, in our opinion, is fairly stated in all material respects in relation to the basic financial statements taken as a whole.

Geo. S. Olive & Co.

Indianapolis, Indiana
March 22, 1985

PRACTICE OFFICE LOCATIONS
INDIANAPOLIS MERRILLVILLE
BLOOMINGTON
EVANSVILLE MUNCIE
FORT WAYNE RICHMOND
 VALPARAISO

MEMBER OF THE AMERICAN GROUP
OF C.P.A. FIRMS WITH
OFFICES IN PRINCIPAL CITIES

THE AMERICAN LEGION

Analysis of Unappropriated Re Year Ended De

	National Officers, Commissions And Committees	Internal Programs (primarily Indianapolis)	External Activities (primarily Washington, D. C.
REVENUE:			
National dues			
Sales of Emblem items			
Advertising revenue			
Investment income			
American Legion Endowment Fund			
Corporation income received			
Amounts withdrawn from American Legion			
Life Insurance Trust Fund			
Restricted contributions			
Other income			
EXPENSES:			
Salaries	\$ 211,980	\$1,965,818	\$584,568
Employee benefits	48,712	441,327	131,078
Cost of Emblem items sold			
Direct publication expenses			
Executive and staff travel	298,149	184,583	49,676
Commission and committee	1,170,660	40,724	
Operational	5,054	1,107,205	58,029
Office	1,220	231,889	126,982
Occupancy		73,664	124
Special projects and programs	12,481	993,927	38,431
	<u>\$1,748,256</u>	<u>\$5,039,137</u>	<u>\$988,888</u>
EXCESS OF REVENUE OVER EXPENSES			

Affiliated Organizations

The wives, mothers, sisters, daughters and granddaughters of Legionnaires and other eligible veterans make up the American Legion Auxiliary, the million-member official aide to The American Legion. Women veterans are also eligible in their own right.

Authorized by action of the Legion's first Annual National Convention in 1919, the Auxiliary celebrates its 65th year in 1985. While the philosophy, principles and policies of the Auxiliary are parallel to those of the Legion, it is a distinct and separate organization, operating as a 99 percent volunteer force. It gives wholehearted support to all programs of the Legion, following the veterans' organization's lead in all but one. The manufacture and distribution of the Memorial Poppy, with its subsequent collection of donations, is a program of the Auxiliary and has been since the early 1920s when The American Legion

handed responsibility for this rehabilitation-support program to the women.

In 1984-1985, Auxiliary members invested more than six million volunteer hours in programs for the veterans and the community, following National President Helen Gardner's theme, "Invest in America." Over \$13 million has been raised and reinvested in Legion/Auxiliary-sponsored programs, over \$4.5 million of which went directly to veterans' programs this year.

With the "Invest in America" theme, National President Gardner has emphasized concern for the quality of education in the public schools. Throughout her administration, she has pointed out the lack of recent history in the classroom and asked Legionnaires to step forward to make recent history come alive for students.

Coupled with the emphasis on public schools is a campaign to alert grassroots America of the triple threat that adult illiteracy poses to the United States.

INFORMATION

NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS

Revenue And Expenses by Function December 31, 1984

Functions		Self-Supporting Functions			Total All Functions
Indianapolis	Administration Washington, D. C.	Total General Functions	Emblem Division	Publications Division	
		\$ 7,610,921		\$6,342,160	\$13,953,081
			\$4,676,588		4,676,588
		2,091,056		2,810,010	2,810,010
		580,612			2,091,056
					580,612
		679,575			679,575
		42,500			42,500
		535,973	2,486	175,153	713,612
		<u>11,540,637</u>	<u>4,679,074</u>	<u>9,327,323</u>	<u>25,547,034</u>
\$1,406,071	\$416,982	4,585,419	423,331	556,145	5,564,895
312,303	92,594	1,026,014	94,536	124,779	1,245,329
			2,786,561		2,786,561
				6,787,613	6,787,613
15,389	12,480	560,277	26,925	22,386	609,588
13,398		1,224,782			1,224,782
213,682	22,626	1,406,596	224,469	122,141	1,753,206
139,090	73,426	572,607	247,679	136,531	956,817
(250,859)	195,362	18,291	227,865	505,876	752,032
47,176	15,938	1,107,953			1,107,953
<u>\$1,896,250</u>	<u>\$829,408</u>	<u>10,501,939</u>	<u>4,031,366</u>	<u>8,255,471</u>	<u>22,788,776</u>
		\$ 1,038,698	\$ 647,708	\$1,071,852	\$ 2,758,258

Many high school graduates cannot read, write or comprehend adequately to function in today's society, creating a drain on the social, economic and national security of America. Mrs. Gardner has pointed out that too much attention is being given to graduating students, not educating them.

Joining both concerns—the lack of an adequate foundation in economic and political history and the fact that there are 23 million functionally illiterate adults in America, Mrs. Gardner has urged Posts and Units to work together to monitor school board action, examine academic standards, and initiate and support tutorial programs to eradicate illiteracy.

Aware of the importance of Central America to the well-being and national defense of America, the Auxiliary's Foreign Relations project has gone to the heart of a country in controversy. Through the efforts of Father Flaviano Mucci, a long-time resident of El Salvador, the plight of brain-damaged and congenitally ill children has brought to the surface the

Auxiliary's ever-present compassion for the helpless.

With the assistance of Father Mucci who has established shelters for the aged and orphaned, a clinical shelter is being erected with Auxiliary-raised funds so that these terminally ill children may spend their remaining months or years in relative comfort and in sanitary conditions.

This shelter, like other Foreign Relations projects over the years, combines the Auxiliary's humanitarian efforts with the concern for children and youth in this and other countries.

The Eight and Forty is an affiliate of the Auxiliary, making it an affiliate of The American Legion. The principal emphasis of the Eight and Forty for programming is directed to the problems of youth, and specifically to the area of assistance to those suffering lung and respiratory diseases. A number of nursing scholarships are provided each year to individuals in the nursing profession who wish to enhance their knowledge and skills in the area of health care.

THE AMERICAN LEGION NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS

Reconciliation of Audited Financial Statements to Internal Financial Statements Year Ended December 31, 1984

	Total Current Fund
EXCESS OF REVENUE OVER EXPENSES— INTERNAL FINANCIAL STATEMENTS:	
Page 114	\$2,758,258
ADD:	
Excess of revenue over expenses for certain designated and restricted funds not included in internal financials—principally The Restricted Fund	472,180
EXCESS OF REVENUE OVER EXPENSES— AUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS— exhibit B, sheet 1 (page 115).....	<u>\$3,230,438</u>

American Legion Endowment Fund Corporation

Robert Charles Smith (LA) President

Foreseeing the necessity of a recurring income source for funding its war veterans rehabilitation and child welfare programs, The American Legion conducted a national campaign in 1925 which raised approximately \$5 million for this purpose. The funds contributed were entrusted to the custody of the American Legion Endowment Fund Corporation.

The Corporation was incorporated under the laws of the State of Delaware in 1925 and a trust agreement

between The American Legion and the Corporation was signed in accordance with which the funds are administered by the Corporation with the annual net investment income being paid to The American Legion for use in the two programs involved.

The operations and financial condition of the American Legion Endowment Fund Corporation for each of the last five years are summarized below (taken from the annual audit reports prepared by Geo. S. Olive & Co., Indianapolis, Indiana).

	December 31 1984	December 31 1983	December 31 1982	December 31 1981	December 31 1980
Total assets	<u>\$7,340,044</u>	<u>\$7,314,933</u>	<u>\$7,310,964</u>	<u>\$7,316,357</u>	<u>\$7,294,883</u>
Investments—at cost	<u>\$7,250,912</u>	<u>\$7,243,536</u>	<u>\$7,221,538</u>	<u>\$7,120,407</u>	<u>\$7,170,044</u>
Interest income	\$ 626,405	\$ 616,218	\$ 639,065	\$ 629,892	\$ 605,235
Expenses	<u>27,469</u>	<u>23,225</u>	<u>20,920</u>	<u>25,712</u>	<u>26,866</u>
Excess of income over expense	<u>\$ 598,936</u>	<u>\$ 592,993</u>	<u>\$ 618,145</u>	<u>\$ 604,180</u>	<u>\$ 578,369</u>
Funds transferred to The American Legion	<u>\$ 580,612</u>	<u>\$ 585,690</u>	<u>\$ 606,384</u>	<u>\$ 602,850</u>	<u>\$ 593,711</u>
Average yield on book value of investments	8.92%	8.80%	8.85%	8.73%	8.67%



THE AMERICAN LEGION 67th National Convention

Discount Coupons



67th National Convention THE AMERICAN LEGION

TOUR #2

COMBINATION PADDLEWHEEL & CITY TOUR—
Before the cruise you'll see New Orleans by Motor Coach, then cruise the Mississippi on the Paddlewheeler, Matchez. Savor the sights and sounds of river-life as they enchanted Mark Twain.

Regular Price — \$24.00

With Coupon — \$19.00 Coupon Valid—8/18-9/4/85



67th National Convention THE AMERICAN LEGION

WELCOME LEGIONNAIRES TO AUDUBON ZOOLOGICAL GARDEN 6500 Magazine Street

58 acres of lush tropical vegetation with waterfalls and century old oak trees. 1000 animals make their home here. Don't miss the White Tiger, The Louisiana Swamp Exhibit and the twin baby orangutans. **FREE PARKING AVAILABLE.**

Regular Price — \$4.50 (Adult) — \$2.00 (Children under 13)
With Coupon — \$3.20 \$1.60

Coupon Valid — August 18-September 1, 1985



67th National Convention THE AMERICAN LEGION

TOUR #1

NEW ORLEANS IN THREE CENTURIES—
Complete City Tour includes historic Jackson Square, the French Quarter, the Cemeteries, Victorian Mansions along Esplanade Avenue, City Park, the Dueling Oaks, Carrollton Avenue, Tulane and Loyola University area and the Garden District along St. Charles Avenue.

Regular Price — \$17.00

With Coupon — \$14.00 Coupon Valid—8/18-9/4/85



67th National Convention THE AMERICAN LEGION

TOUR #3

PLANTATIONS OF THE RIVER ROAD TOUR—
Travel along the "Old River Road" winding beside the mighty Mississippi. Tour two authentic antebellum plantation houses where costumed guides will narrate the history of the homes and the elegant life of the wealthy plantation family. Return to 20th century New Orleans via eerie Cypress Swamps and Bayous where alligators sleep and the Cajun Fiddle may still be heard.

Regular Price — \$31.00

With Coupon — \$27.50 Coupon Valid—8/18-9/4/85



67th National Convention THE AMERICAN LEGION

TOUR #4

NEW ORLEANS AFTER DARK—See "Ol' Man River" and "A Lady Called New Orleans" dressed in her finest jewelry. "Second line it" as you stroll through the famous French Quarter to the rhythm and blues of Bourbon Street. Enjoy headline entertainment, a cocktail of your choice at one of the most popular night club cabarets. Visit one of the famous clubs for a drink and the best of Dixieland Jazz. The evening will end with cafe au lait and beignets at the French Market.

Regular Price — \$34.00

With Coupon — \$29.50



**67th National Convention
THE AMERICAN LEGION**

**THE CONFEDERATE MUSEUM
929 Camp Street**

Museum contains memorabilia of the Civil War including uniforms, flags, weapons and personal effects of Jefferson Davis.

Monday-Saturday
10:00 A.M. to 4:00 P.M.

Regular Price — \$2.00
With Coupon — \$1.50 Coupon Valid—August 18-September 1



**67th National Convention
THE AMERICAN LEGION**

FREE CONVENTION PRINT*

CONVENTION PHOTOS DISPLAYED at these locations:

American Legion: Hyatt Regency Hotel
American Legion Auxiliary: Sheraton New Orleans Hotel
Monday, Aug. 26—8:00 a.m.-5:30 p.m.
Tuesday, Aug. 27—8:00 a.m.-5:30 p.m.
Wednesday, Aug. 28—8:00 a.m.-3:30 p.m.

*Buy any 3 Convention prints at the Photo Exhibit and get the 4th print FREE. Present coupon with order

CARL MURRY, Inc. Official Convention Photographer
(Member: The American Legion Post No. 6, Everett, WA)

SECOND ANNUAL NATIONAL EMBLEM SALES GIFT CERTIFICATE GIVEAWAY

20 WINNERS!!

20 GIFTS!!

20-\$20 GIFT CERTIFICATES

Only **Three** Rules to enter:

1. Open to members of The American Legion, American Legion Auxiliary and Sons of The American Legion only.
2. Please fill out the form below—**COMPLETELY**.
3. Please drop the completed form in the box provided at any of the following Emblem Sales locations:



DEADLINE FOR ENTRIES: AUGUST 28, 1985—12:00 NOON

Gift Certificates will be sent to winners after September 16, 1985.

Hyatt Regency Hotel
3rd Floor
Main Ballroom Lobby
Friday, August 23 Through
Tuesday, August 27
Open: 9:00 a.m. Daily

Superdome
Poydras St. Entrance
Monday, August 26 Through
Wednesday, August 28
Open: Daily During Sessions

Sheraton New Orleans Hotel
5th Floor
Ballroom Foyer
Saturday, August 24 Through
Tuesday, August 27
Open: 9:00 a.m. Daily

NAME: _____

MEMBERSHIP
CARD NUMBER: _____

STREET ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____

STATE: _____

ZIP: _____

The American Legion's

Family Benefit Plan

Your current (1985) membership in The American Legion qualifies you for the savings described below:



1-800-323-6282
1-800-942-6006 (Ill.)

see ad page 5



1-800-331-1212

see ad page 23



see ad Cover 4



1-800-531-5900

RAMADA

1-800-2-RAMADA



1-800-367-2277

ALLSTATE MOTOR CLUB: 10% discount on club membership and associated benefits. Spouse receives full membership benefits at no extra cost.

AMERICAN RED BALL TRANSIT CO., INC.: Up to 28% off interstate moving charges. Not valid to or from AK or HI. Call your local American Red Ball agent for details about this and many more benefits.

AVIS: For continental U.S., 5% off Avis Daily Super Value rates; 18% off We Mean Business rates; and 40% off normal time and mileage rates at all corporate and participating licensees. Use special Avis/Legion ID Number: A/G 343600.

BEST WESTERN: 10% discount on rooms at participating properties. With more than 3,100 hotels in 30 countries, Best Western is the world's largest lodging chain.

BETTER TIMES Magazine is not for sale at newsstands or in supermarkets. The only way you can buy BETTER TIMES is to subscribe through this offer — buy one — Get one FREE.

GREYHOUND LINES: 15% off standard fares for interstate and intrastate travel. Not valid in Canada. Call your closest Greyhound agent.

LA QUINTA MOTOR INNS: Preferred Customer Rate \$4.00 discount on every room, every day off regular rates. Show Legion ID upon check-in and use ID Number Ad3.

NATIONAL CAR RENTAL: At participating locations nationwide, special American Legion pre-discounted unlimited mileage rates, reduced from 10-40%. Use special Legion ID Number: 5176669.

RAMADA: R & R Weekend — 25% off minimum published room rate for one or two persons.

RODEWAY INNS: Minimum of 10% off the current rate on all rooms. Does not apply to already discounted rates; certain blackout periods may apply.

THRIFTY RENT-A-CAR: New LOWER unlimited mileage rates for American Legion members when renting in the continental U.S. Rates range from \$29.00 for a sub-compact to \$35.00 for full size. A \$2 or \$3 savings from previous agreement.

UNITED VAN LINES: 20% off of your next interstate move (excluding Alaska and Hawaii). Call your nearest United Van Lines agent for more details.

The above offers are valid only at participating locations.
The above discounts are not valid with any other discount or special price.



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Greyhound



1-800-528-0447
(For Charter
& Group Travel)

National Car Rental

1-800-227-7368
see ad page 33

**RODEWAY
INN**

1-800-228-2000



see ad Cover 2

BETTER TIMES

congratulates
The American Legion
on

67 years

of community service.